The Graduate School
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Center for Teaching Excellence
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

GRADUATE TEACHING & INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT TRAINING FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2027

All graduate students who will be newly appointed Teaching or Instructional Assistants (GTAs/GIAs) or GAs that have any kind of student learning or classroom assistance responsibilities during the 2026-2027 academic year, including Summer 2027, are required to complete **both** components of TA Training: (1) GTA/IA Orientation, and (2) GRAD 701, a one-semester workshop-based course on teaching assistant development (or approved departmental equivalent).

GTA/GIA Orientation

- Complete all four parts of GTA/IA Orientation introducing graduate students to teaching at USC prior to the start of the semester.
- ***Registration deadline is Friday January 1, 2027***

	Modality	Registration	Topics
Part A	In person	**Required**	Expectations, Being a TA at USC
Part B	Synchronous online	**Required**	Concurrent Sessions with Experienced TAs
Part C	Asynchronous online modules	**No**	Policies & Campus Resources
Part D	Asynchronous online videos	**No**	Videos specific to GTA roles

- **Date offered for Parts A and B:**

GTA/IA Orientation Parts A and B	A	B
Wed. Jan. 6	**9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**	**1:45 – 3:00 p.m.**

- Students must make every effort to attend on this date – no other dates are offered for Spring 2027.
- **Part C** and **Part D** completion is entirely asynchronous online but must be completed by the first week of classes.
- Completion of GTA/IA Orientation is recommended just prior to a graduate student's first teaching semester, not earlier, due to the occurrence of university policy changes.
- More information and register for GTA/IA Orientation here: http://sc.edu/cte/TA_OrientationTraining.php

GRAD 701: "Teaching Assistant Development" Course

- Formalized professional training course required before or during the first semester of teaching.
- Students must register for either GRAD 701: Teaching Assistant Development, or the equivalent course offered by their academic unit if it is offered in Spring 2027 (see options below). If not offered in Spring 2027, students must register for GRAD 701 Section 001. GRAD 701 is not offered in Summer semesters.

GRAD 701 – Teaching Assistant Development:

- 1-semester, zero-credit course
- Participation in four professional development activities, workshops, or webinars, as chosen by the student
- Register for GRAD 701 Section 001 course through my.sc.edu, CRN **# 40738** (open to all departments)

701-Equivalent Departmental Courses:

- For students only in departments with a Graduate School-approved TA training course
- Approved departmental GRAD 701-equivalent courses *(if offered in Spring 2027)* that can substitute for GRAD 701: EDCE 830, EDHE 738, EDHE 834, ENGL 691/2, ENCP 701, FORL 776, HRTM 798/890, ISCI 804, JOUR 805, LING 795, MATH 791/2, PHIL 790, PHYS 700, SPTE 810
- Contact your Graduate Director or Coordinator for more information; for more details, visit http://sc.edu/cte/Grad701.php.

To register for both, visit:
https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/cte/graduate_teaching_assistants/gta-ia_training/index.php

Questions? Contact Dr. Michelle Hardee, TA Training Program Manager, hardeem@mailbox.sc.edu.

★ Important Information for International Teaching Assistant Graduate Students

- Under SC state law, International graduate students who will be newly appointed GTAs/GIAs must pass the **International Teaching Assistant (ITA) English Speaking Assessment** held on **Tuesday, January 5, 2027,** in order to be given a teaching or instructional assistantship. *Only Graduate Directors can register their students;* **Directors must register students by 5 p.m. on Monday, January 4, 2027,** for a student to be scheduled to take the assessment. For more information on English Language Proficiency Requirements and ITA Assessment, visit English Programs for Internationals (EPI) website: https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/english_programs_for_internationals/academic_programs/ita_workshop_assessment/index.php, email EPIB-ita@mailbox.sc.edu, call 803-777-3867.