

To apply to be a GTA:

Indicate your desire to be a GTA on your application materials. Specifically request a GTA position in your personal statement. GTA positions are currently available only for students in residence, not online or distance MS students. You will be expected to observe and teach a seated course, conduct on-campus office hours, and attend convened meetings on a regular basis.

Watch for your acceptance. You will be notified if you have received a GTA position. There are some privileges and restrictions that come with being a GTA, which will be listed for you in the contract letter, during orientation, and during weekly professional development meetings.

As a GTA, your first semester requires taking 3 graduate courses plus observing an undergraduate section of the course you will teach, in its entirety. GTAs must always carry a full-time load of 9 credit hours.

When you observe during your first semester, the course will be taught by an experienced instructor and you will be able to practice teaching a few times. You will be taught methods for maximizing the usefulness of the observations. You are paid for observing the course, so your presence is expected at each class session.

The week prior to your second semester in the MS program, you will participate in the university GTA workshop. Passing it is a requirement before you can teach. You must attend every required activity and pass your evaluation, or you will not be permitted to teach.

Every semester as a GTA, you will be required to carry 9 semester hours of courses, which must be pre-approved by your advisor. You will receive a contract every semester, either appointing you or renewing your appointment; be sure to understand all the information in these letters.

The week before each fall and spring semester begins, you will participate in a full-day orientation workshop. Weekly professional development seminars will be scheduled. All these activities are considered to be part of your job of a GTA and should be missed only in case of an emergency.

GTAs are expected to study full time, in residence, for four regular semesters, and teaching appointments are for four semesters (one training, three teaching).

Contact Dr. Northcut (northcut@mst.edu) with questions.