

2020 Summer Graduate Pedagogy Mentors Call for Applications

The Center for Innovations in Teaching and Learning (CITL) invites applications to the 2020 Summer Graduate Pedagogy Mentors program, which provides an enhanced teaching support network for graduate students teaching summer courses as Graduate Student Instructors (GSIs). While faculty members remain the primary supervisors of summer GSIs, Summer Mentors provide an additional resource for teaching support through a peer-centered teaching and learning community model.

The structure of the Summer Mentors program is new in 2020. CITL will facilitate a new graduate certificate program in Course Design & Delivery in Spring 2020 for approximately 25-30 graduate student instructors (GSIs) teaching in the Summer Sessions. The Summer Graduate Pedagogy Mentors will be integrated into this certificate program to provide ongoing and targeted support for the group of participating GSIs.

With this new model, each Summer Graduate Pedagogy Mentor will provide support to a group of approximately 5 GSIs in related fields of study, by:

- attending the 5 sessions of the Course Design & Delivery certificate program in Spring;
- providing feedback on their assigned GSIs' course materials (course learning outcomes, syllabus design, assignment design, in-class lesson plans); and
- meeting with each of their GSIs at least twice during Summer Session to discuss topics related to GSI teaching goals, such as creating equitable learning environments, utilizing active learning techniques, and more. (An equivalent to these two meetings would be a classroom observation with a pre- and post-observation discussion, based on GSI needs.)

In addition to providing fuller support to a smaller group of approximately 5 GSIs, each mentor will be available for some individual consultations (as requested and as needed, in-person or virtual) during the Summer Sessions for a larger subset of GSIs from related fields of study (e.g. within the same academic division). All mentors will receive ongoing support from CITL staff, including a Lead Mentor who will be the primary coordinator of the mentorship program, throughout the Spring quarter and Summer Sessions.

Mentor Commitments Summary

- Participate in a mentor preparation meeting in early Spring 2020
- Attend the 5 sessions of the Course Design & Delivery certificate program in Spring 2020, on select Fridays at 9am-11am (breakfast served): April 10, April 24, May 8, May 22, June 5
- Provide feedback on the course materials of their assigned group of Summer GSIs (approximately 5) during the certificate program
- Attend a mixer event for all Summer GSIs and mentors in Spring 2020
- Coordinate and facilitate at least 2 meetings with each of their assigned Summer GSIs during the Summer Sessions (or equivalent, e.g. teaching observation)
- Provide teaching resources, support, and encouragement to their group of Summer GSIs

- Be available for some consultations with Summer GSIs (as requested and as needed) in their academic division during the Summer Sessions, e.g. sharing teaching resources and doing teaching observations
- Keep track of consultations with GSIs to communicate with CITL about participation
- Attend check-in meetings with CITL staff throughout Spring and Summer as needed
- Maintain strong communication with the Lead Mentor and CITL staff, including about individual mentorship goals and needs

Mentor Fellowships

Each mentor will receive a fellowship of \$2,000, to be paid out in Spring 2020. This fellowship is based on an estimated maximum of 50 mentorship hours spread throughout Spring and Summer, including certificate program attendance, individual consultation meetings and teaching observations, CITL mentor meetings, and time to review course materials, offer feedback, and collect and share resources.

Fellowship payments can be received on top of other university employment, such as TA, GSI, or GSR positions. The fellowship disbursement will be coordinated by the Financial Aid & Scholarship Office in compliance with University policy. If you are a financial aid recipient, there are some cases in which the award could reduce loan indebtedness in order to stay within the total cost of attendance. If that is the case, the Financial Aid Office would work with you to see if any necessary adjustments to your cost of attendance need to be made before disbursing the award, with the goal of ensuring that each mentor can receive the full benefit of participating.

Application & Selection Process

To apply to be a Summer Mentor, please submit the following materials to citl@ucsc.edu by the end of the day (midnight) on **Monday, March 9**:

- A 1- to 2-page statement of interest that includes:
 - Why you'd like to be a mentor to Summer GSIs
 - A brief overview of your teaching experience, including whether you have taught as a GSI at UC Santa Cruz, and whether you have taught a summer course
 - Your mentorship experience, whether formal or informal
 - Your experience with pedagogical professional development (such as programs and workshops at CITL), and how that experience can guide your role as a mentor
 - Your availability in Spring and Summer 2020. Summer Session dates are available at the [Summer Session website](#). (Mentors do not necessarily need to be in residence for the full duration of Summer.)
- An up-to-date CV

CITL will notify applicants of their acceptance during the week of March 16. We aim to have a cohort of 5-6 mentors with representation across the academic divisions, and seek to match mentor disciplinary backgrounds with the disciplinary backgrounds of the GSIs who sign up to participate in the Course Design & Delivery certificate program. We aim to include graduate students who have not yet been CITL Summer Mentors, and also welcome applications from those who have. In addition to having participated in CITL's pedagogical professional development, there is a strong preference that mentors have GSI experience on our campus, particularly during the Summer Sessions.