

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE  
APPLICATION for GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATION

### DEADLINES:

**Priority:** February 1 to begin the following fall. Graduate Assistantships in the Department of English are offered on a yearly basis, beginning in the fall term. International student applicants must meet this priority deadline to ensure necessary time for Visa appointments and processing.

**Rolling:** Applications will be accepted through May 15 based on remaining positions. Please confirm openings with Director of Graduate Studies: Professor Valerie Vogrin (vvogrin@siue.edu).

**Decision:** Applicants receiving a GA position will receive notice in March or April.

### APPLICATION SUBMISSION:

The [application form](#) should be saved and then attached to an email along with the Teaching Statement of Purpose and writing sample (both saved in pdf format) to [englishgrad@siue.edu](mailto:englishgrad@siue.edu).

**Current graduate students already taking courses** should attach the following to their e-mails:

- the Graduate Assistantship Application form

- a “Teaching Statement of Purpose” (See description below)
- writing sample (See description below)
- one letter of recommendation from a faculty member *addressing teaching potential* be sent to [englishgrad@siue.edu](mailto:englishgrad@siue.edu).

**Newly admitted graduate students** must submit the following in addition to those materials already submitted to the Graduate School for application to the program:

- the Graduate Assistantship Application form
- a “Teaching Statement of Purpose” (See description below)
- writing sample (See description below)

### TEACHING STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Teaching Statement must be 750-1,000 words in length. Applicants should explain their interests in and preparedness to teach English Composition at SIUE. Applicants should discuss their own emerging teaching philosophies, ideas about what makes for effective teaching of writing, what pedagogical strategies might be employed, the role and function of writing assessment in the classroom. Applicants might also address incorporation of pedagogical methods drawn from classroom experience as a student or from related teaching experiences.

### WRITING SAMPLE

The writing sample must be between 5 and 10 pages, and must be scholarly argumentative/expository prose.