2017 Teaching Assistant Orientation

Keynote
Understanding Your Role as a GTA
Jenny Parker

Your New Role

Graduate Teaching Assistants help the university achieve its mission. You are an important contribution. You are dedicated to student learning. You most likely have an enthusiasm for acquiring new teaching methods, lab techniques, and other educational methods. As TAs you have unique educational experiences with the university to share as students and with students. You are mastering a discipline and becoming a professional. You are doing this, all while mastering skills in education.

As a student you are already part of an intellectual community. You have chosen to expand your role in an academic environment. Teaching is a very good way to learn. You are still a voice of the university, but now in a different way.

Key Concepts

- You are important to the NIU community. Remember you have earned your place as a Graduate Teaching Assistant.
- Great TAs are prepared, passionate, and show interest in their students.
- Rise to the challenge! This will be a great learning experience and your will grow professionally as you take on the challenges of being a graduate teaching assistant.

Next Steps

Check out the full presentation slide deck go to http://go.niu.edu/TAO17Presentations, for details, questions you should be asking, and tips specific to your related duties.

Got Questions?

Jenny Parker
Associate Vice Provost for Educator Licensure and Preparation
jparker@niu.edu or 815-753-0846

View the presentation at facdev.niu.edu/tao17