Graduate students who are awarded assistantships receive more than financial support; they also receive extensive training and experience in teaching English Composition at the college level and in working and consulting in the Writing Center. In return, Graduate Teaching Assistants bring a variety of skills, backgrounds, and perspectives to the teaching of composition and to individual consulting sessions.

A graduate teaching assistantship (GTA) in English represents a 20-hour-per-week commitment.

For **first-year graduate assistants**, this typically involves the following each week:

- Four classroom hours of teaching English 105, NAU’s freshman composition course. The curriculum follows a standard syllabus and is content-based. It incorporates a technological literary component for each section which is taught in a computer lab (once a week).
- Six hours of regularly scheduled Writing Center instruction, which involves one-on-one tutoring (walk-in and English 100, our individualized tutoring class), the preparation and presentation of cross-curricular writing workshops or other projects.

During the **second year**, experienced GTAs have the option of teaching a second class, usually ENG 205, or can continue working in the Writing Center/ENG 100.

So, during your first year, you will teach ENG 105 and work in the Writing Center/ENG 100. In subsequent years you will teach ENG 105 and have the option of teaching ENG 205 (six hours of teaching), or possibly another course, (as assigned by the University Writing Program), or continue your work in the Writing Center.

The approximate time commitment breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First-year GTAs</th>
<th>Weekly time (hours)</th>
<th>Second-Year GTAs</th>
<th>Weekly time (hours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teach ENG 105</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Teach ENG 105</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Office Hours</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Center / ENG 100</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Preparation for and teaching ENG 205 or Writing Center / ENG 100</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation / grading for ENG 105</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Preparation / grading for ENG 105</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional weekly requirements during the first semester include:

- Participation in English 601, a three-credit-hour teaching practicum
- Participation in English 587, a one-credit-hour tutoring practicum

Additional weekly requirements during the second semester include:

- Participation in English 587, a one-credit-hour tutoring practicum

These courses should be part of, not in addition to, the nine-hour full-time enrollment required of all graduate assistants each semester. (Note: Both ENG 587 and ENG 601 require department permission, so the Writing Program office will register you for these classes.)

Prior to teaching, graduate assistants must also participate in:

- A three-week orientation prior to fall semester and a brief session before spring semester.
  - Fall 2015: Start Date is Monday, August 10, 2014
  - Spring 2015: Start Date Friday, January 15, 2015

As you make your travel plans for summer and also for over the holiday break, please remember that as a new Graduate Teaching Assistant you are required to attend all of our three-week pre-fall-semester orientation (August 10 - August 26) and also one day of orientation before the spring semester (Friday January 15th). These sessions are vital to your success as an ENG 105 teacher and as a writing consultant in the Writing Center, so please plan your travel, etc. so that you're here every day.

Graduate Assistantships are reviewed on an annual basis, subject to acceptable and satisfactory performance of the duties listed above and to reasonable progress towards the degree.