

# GRADUATE STUDENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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## TEACHING ASSISTANT CERTIFICATION SERIES

Your graduate program will be giving you excellent training in your discipline. If you plan to include teaching at some point in your career, it will also be helpful to take some training in pedagogy (the study of teaching methods and student learning). The basic premise of pedagogy training is that teaching should be understood like any other academic enterprise: evidence-based. Ideally, training will allow you to take a step back, evaluate your own pre-conceptions of teaching, and shape your approach in the classroom based on the best available empirical data on how students actually learn. Workshop topics will vary, but will generally show you how to: manage “challenging” students in the classroom, address cultural diversity, design a curriculum, incorporate pedagogical research into the classroom, and develop a statement of teaching philosophy.

The Office of Graduate Studies and PACE (the Professional & Academic Center for Excellence) hosts Teaching Assistant Certification Series (TACS) for any graduate student interested in a future career involving teaching, especially those considering becoming future faculty. This program does not involve additional formal coursework or tuition.

To earn the certificate, students must complete the following within one academic year:

1. Participate in at least 6 of the workshops offered (FERPA, Title IX, and Classroom Management are mandatory),
2. Submit a copy of their statement of teaching philosophy, they will then receive feedback on it, and must submit a revised copy, and
3. Have an observation of their teaching and receive formative feedback.

\*Note that workshops are open to all students as professional development, even if not in the program. Currently, all

### Graduate Studies

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## **GRADUATE STUDIES**

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

# **GRADUATE, RESEARCH, AND TEACHING ASSISTANT TRAINING**

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For all new and returning GA, TA, and RA's at  
Sam Houston State University

**August 18th**  
**12:00pm-5:00pm**  
**LSC 320**

Lunch will be provided

Please register for this event separately  
from New Student Orientation

## **Topics covered:**

Title IX

IDEA

Classroom Management

FERPA

Syllabus Creation

**Register online at [shsu.edu/gradstudies](https://shsu.edu/gradstudies) via the  
"Graduate Assistant Training" button**