

Graduate Assistantship Job Description

Position Summary:

Title: Teaching Assistant

Department: School of Nursing

Hours per Week: 10 hours/week

Location(s): Portland

Lab (if applicable): Nursing Sim lab

Duration: Fall 2026 semester, Spring 2027 semester

Anticipated Start Date: 9/1/2026

Total Stipend: \$6,000 for master's-level students / \$7,000 for doctoral-level students, paid biweekly

Tuition Waiver: up to 3 graduate credits during each the Fall 2026 semester, Spring 2027 semester

Supervisor Name: Laura Detwiler, Nurse Midwife

Supervisor Email: laura.detwiler@maine.edu

Supervisor Phone: 2077804168

*** Per [CBA, Art. 38, § 7](#), graduate workers who are on approved remote work arrangement may need to physically come to campus periodically to perform work or attend meetings. Check with the supervisor for any on-campus requirements.*

Other Information:

- This GA / TA will be supported by two professors focused on the Reproductive Health Curriculum in the School of Nursing. The TA will contribute to this curriculum and will have far reaching effects for our Program Learning Outcomes, as well as the University of Southern Maine's reach in our Nursing community at large.
- The University offers a GA/TA/RA health benefit plan to USM graduate workers through Gallagher Health. Additionally, effective July 1, 2026, workers have access to dental and vision insurance options and voluntary retirement savings plans; USM will not cover these costs.
- Graduate workers are also eligible for resources through the UMS Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

Position Details:

Statement of Job:

Projects for NUR 421. Sexual and Reproductive Health. Occasional In-person Monday. Some Remote.

1. Brainstorm with Professors Yauch, MSN and Detwiler, MSN, regarding:
 - a. Service learning component of the course (i.e., work with Doula, Greater Portland Health, or Planned Parenthood; increase clinical opportunities in rural areas, etc.)
 - b. Trans Health/ Gender affirming care
 - c. Menopause Health

Focus on deliverable product by end of each semester.

2. Strengthen a module/lesson on LGBTQIA + nursing care/advocacy for Senior Nursing Students. Explore resources including:
 - a. OUT Maine
 - b. Safe Zone USM
 - c. Fenway Health
 - d. Planned Parenthood
 - e. Maine Family Planning

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3. Develop Open Education Resources, so that students can buy older book edition and we supplement with well vetted Open Education Resources
4. Assist with integrating ATI to supplement classroom learning.
 - a. Screen video simulations
 - b. Develop quizzes
5. Assist with grading.
6. Strengthen "gameification" in Reproductive Nursing education, including: Kahoot, Jeopardy, Wordle

Assistance with NUR418 Repro/Maternity SIM- Tuesdays.

1. Assist with Simulations
 - a. Expand/help to rewrite 1-2 new labs to include provision of care to non-OB (gynecologic) patients, such as exposure to interviewing, IPV assessment, contraceptive needs, care to transgender patients
2. Assist with Grading
3. Assist with Skill labs (hands on help - 6 stations running simultaneously)
4. Assist to compile a Lab Guide for NUR 418

Essential Functions:

- Work with Brightspace
- Work with students with therapeutic presence
- Familiarize self with "Pedagogy of Kindness" as a framework for working with students

Supervisory Responsibilities:

n/a

Budget Responsibilities:

none

Public and Professional Activities Related to Job Performance:

none

Internal Contacts:

Laura Detwiler, ARNP, CNM (Nurse Midwife) and Patricia Yauch, ARNP, WHNP (Women's Health Nurse Practitioner)

External Contacts:

In Her Presence; MaineHealth; Greater Portland Health

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Critical thinking and organized writing
- Excellent listening and closed loop communication
- Willingness to learn or work with Excel
- A sense of humor and positive attitude

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Required Qualifications:

- A sense of humor and positive attitude
- Must not be a non-student University of Maine System employee.
- The use of a personal computer or laptop IS required for this position. Note: designated [on-campus computer lab workstations](#) are available on a first come, first served basis.

Preferred Qualifications:

- A genuine interest in Reproductive Justice, and/or Menopause care, and/or Trans care, and/or Maternity Care
- Self-starter with initiative
- Ability to speak a second language
- Enrollment in Nursing Program or Leadership Program
- Suggested academic programs: Nursing or Leadership

This position shall be covered by the University of Maine System and University of Maine Graduate Workers Union Collective Bargaining Agreement.

To Apply:

Submit your application, including your resume and cover letter, via the [Graduate Assistant Application form linked here](#) by 5/12/2026. In your cover letter, include a self-assessment about how this position relates to your academic program and professional aspirations. Candidates should receive notice of employment decisions by 6/15/2026.

Please direct any questions specific to this position to the supervisor at laura.detwiler@maine.edu or 2077804168. For general questions about the GA program, or the Graduate Assistant Application form, reach out to the Office of Graduate Studies, usmgradstudies@maine.edu or 207-780-4872. or 207-780-4872.