

MEMORANDUM

To: GTAs TEACHING COMPOSITION

From: THE ENGLISH GRADUATE ORGANIZATION

Re: ANNUAL EGO COMPOSITION TEACHING AWARD

Date: 01/14/2014

The English Graduate Organization (EGO) encourages all graduate students teaching composition during this academic year to submit a teaching portfolio in application for this year's EGO Composition Teaching Award.

About the Award

The EGO Composition Teaching Award is a monetary prize (totaling \$1000) distributed between two outstanding English GTAs. Any GTA from any of the English programs is welcome to apply, but applicants must be teaching a composition course. The first place winner will receive \$750, and the runner-up will receive \$250. A panel of English faculty and EGO representatives (who cannot apply for the award) will evaluate the portfolios (without knowing whom each packet belongs to) and perform the necessary observations. Applicants will be scored based on how well their theoretical and practical approaches to teaching composition align with the First-Year Writing program's goals and objectives. Portfolios can be submitted anytime before close of day March 31, 2014. Contact Natalie Hopper (nnhopper@crimson.ua.edu) if you have questions or need to schedule an observation.

The Application Process

1. APPLICATION: (available at <http://english.ua.edu/grad/ego>)
2. TEACHING PHILOSOPHY: A 1-2 page document explaining your overall philosophy of teaching composition, any pedagogical theories fundamental to your philosophy, your goals in the classroom, and how your specific teaching techniques accomplish those goals.
3. SYLLABUS: Course policies and assignment schedule for the entire semester
4. ONE UNIT OF MATERIALS: Please include lesson plans, homework assignments, in-class activities, handouts, writing assignments, and rubrics for one paper/unit. Essentially, show us what tools you used to teach a particular unit from beginning to end.
5. TEACHING OBSERVATION: All candidates are responsible scheduling two back-to-back observations through Natalie Hopper (nnhopper@crimson.ua.edu). One judge will observe one class period, and another judge will come in to observe the next day that class meets. This method allows multiple judges to offer their perspectives on your teaching to the rest of the panel and gives us a better idea of how you lead into and follow up on in-class lessons/activities.

ALL application materials must come from the same semester.

TURN IN YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION TO THE EGO DEPARTMENT MAILBOX IN MORGAN 103 BY MARCH 31.