

TO: Leslie Schuster
FROM: Ron Dufour, Elisa Miller
RE: Graduate Assistant in History

Duties and Responsibilities: The primary duties of this position entail serving as a teaching assistant for the department's introductory methodology course, Hist. 281: History Matters-Methods and Skills and when appropriate, Hist 282: History Matters-Historical Research.. The graduate assistant will attend all or most of the classes, work with students individually to develop their reading, writing, and analytical skills, and in particular assist students in developing the research skills that will lead to the research paper that is the core of Hist. 282.

Contributions to Professional Development: This position offers graduate students the opportunity to begin to develop their pedagogical skills in working with students of a wide range of interests and abilities. In particular, it provides them with a solid introduction to the teaching profession by establishing a professional, mentoring relationship with the course instructors. We have had significant success in helping our recent GAs reach these goals. Our past GAs have entered the profession in a variety of positions—as high school teachers, for instance, and as research assistants in public history programs. A recent GA, Nic Hardesty, delivered a research paper at the New England Historical Association conference. Our current GA, Derek DeMello, plans to apply to doctoral programs in pursuit of a degree in early American history.

Qualifications: Students must have an undergraduate major in History, and must provide a short statement addressing their interest in the position, explaining how their undergraduate work has prepared them for the position's responsibilities, and, if appropriate, how these duties may relate to their future professional goals.

To Apply: Send your application, with a resume, to Prof. Ron Dufour, Dept. of History, Rhode Island College, at rdufour@ric.edu.