Department of Nutritional Sciences

Criteria for the Appointment and Reappointment of Teaching Assistantships

I. Criteria for the appointment of Teaching Assistants
   • The ability to communicate effectively
     o For non-native English speakers, this includes but is not limited to satisfactory completion of the SPEAK test**
   • Academic and/or practical preparation in the type of material covered in the courses to which the assistant is to be assigned
   • Excellent organizational skills
   • Grade point average ~3.0; GRE score (math and verbal) ~1150.
   • Availability and accessibility to perform assigned duties

II. Criteria for Reappointment of Teaching Assistants
   • Outstanding performance of duties assigned
   • Development of appropriate teaching and organization skills
   • Outstanding performance in the student’s course of study as delineated by the student and his/her advisor
   • Appropriate progress towards thesis research
   • Availability and accessibility to perform assigned duties
   • Grade point average ~3.0

** The Speaking Proficiency English Assessment Kit (SPEAK) Test is a standardized oral English language assessment that is administered to international graduate students who are non-native English speakers and required for all students who expect to hold an International Teaching Assistantship (ITA). A satisfactory result on the SPEAK test is required by the Dept. of Nutritional Sciences for appointment as an ITA. If the student does not pass the SPEAK test, they are required to register for an English course, which can be taken while serving as an ITA. Failure to register for the English course will lead to receipt by the student of a letter from the Rutgers New Brunswick Graduate School (with copies to the graduate program directors and the student’s advisor) indicating failure to register for the course, and the TA appointment will be terminated.

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