

New GTA Orientation | Fall 2020

Congratulations on your new position as a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) at the University of Kansas (KU)! GTAs play an integral role at KU. All new GTAs must complete a mandatory New GTA Orientation offered by the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) or an approved alternative New GTA Orientation offered by their hiring department. CTE's New GTA Orientation will formally begin August 18 with some components available earlier and will extend through the fall semester. Find more details about the three components of the program below.

1. Policy Tutorial	2. Remote Conference		3. Follow-up Session
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be completed by ALL new GTAs• Goal is to introduce and familiarize you with KU policies and procedures as they relate to your duties as a GTA• Covers four broad topics: Privacy and Disability, Consenting Relationships and Sexual Harassment, Professional Expectations, and Academic Integrity• Complete in Blackboard¹• Available August 10• Due August 23• Time commitment is about 1 hour	<h3>2a. Essential Modules</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be completed by ALL new GTAs unless your department² has an approved alternative• Goal is to provide you with an overview of best practices of teaching regardless of discipline and role• There are four essential modules: Who are KU students, Evaluating Student Learning, Creating an Inclusive and Engaging Climate for ALL Your Students, and Considerations for Teaching Online• Complete in Blackboard¹• Available August 17• Due August 23• Time commitment is about 4 hours	<h3>2b. Breakout Modules</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be completed by ALL new GTAs unless your department² has an approved alternative• Goal is to provide you with an overview of best practices of teaching considering your specific role• GTAs are required to choose and complete three breakout modules• Available breakout topics include: Guiding Discussions, Lecturing, Teaching a Science Lab, Problem Solving in the Technical Classroom, Succeeding in the First Few Weeks, Handling Difficult Conversations, Teaching in the U.S., and How to Grade Student Writing• Complete in Blackboard¹• Available August 17• Due September 18• Time commitment is about 3–4 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be completed by ALL new GTAs unless your department² has an approved alternative• Goal is to provide you with an opportunity to discuss challenges you are facing and to develop a plan to make any adjustments you believe are needed to improve your students' learning• Register for one synchronous session through Blackboard¹• Available September 14• Complete by October 19• Time commitment is about 1 hour

1. You should be able to access the Blackboard course by clicking the link associated with the orientation component. You can also enter the course by logging in to your Blackboard at courseware.ku.edu. If you are still having trouble accessing the course, it may be that you still need to be added as a student by the instructor. In this case, email Kaila Colyott at kcolyott@ku.edu to get added to the course.
2. If you are teaching in a department that has an approved alternative GTA orientation, you only need to complete the CTE-hosted New GTA Policy Tutorial component. You can check to see if your department has an alternative program at cte.ku.edu/gta-resources.

Questions? If you have any questions, e-mail us at kcolyott@ku.edu or cte@ku.edu, or visit our website at cte.ku.edu