**Further Details**

**Understanding Mental Health Graduate Teaching Assistants**

**About Understanding Mental Health**

Understanding Mental Health is a new, interdisciplinary, 10 credit unit, which will be delivered for the first time in Semester 2 2019, and which has been specifically developed to be of interest to students from a wide range of disciplines. The unit introduces current intellectual and professional debate around mental health, providing new perspectives on longstanding questions in the field, such as the 'nature vs nurture' debate, causes of mental health problems, and the history and controversies relating to psychiatric labelling, diagnosis and treatments, and considers contrasting theoretical perspectives - specifically biological, social and psychological models - on mental health problems and their management. The unit aims to help students to reflect on the ways in which we might protect and improve our own mental health and wellbeing and that of others.

Understanding Mental Health is a delivered completely online via Blackboard and is made up of online modules which will be released at intervals. The unit is highly interactive and adopts a blend of approaches including video inputs and case studies. Understanding Mental Health is a UCIL unit.

To find out more about the Understanding Mental Health please visit the UCIL website: http://www.college.manchester.ac.uk/

**Overview of the GTA role**

Given the interdisciplinary nature of the Understanding Mental Health unit, we hope to recruit GTAs from a wide range of backgrounds and do not expect GTAs to have expertise in all of the areas covered.

We are, however, looking for a real personal interest in the subject matter and a passion for working with students.

You will need to be a skilled communicator, especially in writing, as you will be responding to student queries Blackboard discussion boards and email. You will need to commit to regular interaction with students online.

**Workload and Payment**

GTAs are paid for a standard 4.5 hours per week per semester (14 weeks). Payment is on the [University of Manchester Graduate Teaching Assistant pay scale](http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=30037), depending on experience.

However, please note that, while the workload averages out as 4.5 hours per week across the Semester, there can be considerable variation in the hours worked, with fewer hours needed during some weeks, and substantially more than 4.5 hours per week needed during assessment periods (May/early June for Semester 2).

**Please note that, if you are a (non-EU) international student** you should ensure you are aware of any restrictions your visa places on your working hours. If you are employed in more than one role within/without the University of Manchester, it is your responsibility to ensure your total hours are within the hours allowed by your visa. [For more details see the information provided by Student Support.](http://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/immigration-and-visas/during-your-studies/working/)

**Likely Requirements of the Role:**

As this is a completely new unit, requirements of the role are likely to include:

* Acting as tutor to a group of approximately 25 students providing ongoing support throughout the unit via Blackboard
* Facilitating online discussion based on unit content, including moderation of discussion boards
* Providing formative feedback and guidance to students
* Being the first point of contact for student queries during the unit
* Marking end assessments
* Completing a range of administrative tasks related to student support and monitoring

Full assessment training and support will be provided. Note that, although the unit is delivered entirely online, you will be required to attend one or two face to face training/moderation meetings, and should therefore be resident in Manchester during Semester time, and during the assessment period.

**GTA Person Specification**

**Essential**

Registered as a current PhD student at the University of Manchester for the period of time covered by the unit. (Note : You need to have access to the university’s IT networks to tutor on the unit)

* *Either* possession of a University of Manchester postgraduate teaching certificate or equivalent, *or* an undertaking to obtain this upon appointment
* A clear interest in (and some general knowledge of) the issues relating to Mental Health
* Excellent ability to communicate in English

**Desirable**

* University teaching experience at undergraduate level
* Experience of, or interest in, online learning
* An understanding of the issues affecting undergraduates
* A willingness and ability to acquire knowledge and understanding of the University teaching quality standards, including examinations standards and procedures
* Adaptable and flexible approach to work, with the ability to think outside the box

**Further Information**

Please apply using the GTA application form.

**Completed application forms** **should be submitted via email** to [UnderstandingMentalHealth@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:UnderstandingMentalHealth@manchester.ac.uk)

using the subject line "Understanding Mental Health eTutor Vacancy Application".

The closing date for applications is 5pm Friday 25th January**.**

**If offered a post you would need to be able to start straightaway.**

If you have any question about the role please contact [sian.yeowell@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:sian.yeowell@manchester.ac.uk).