

Teaching Assistant Positions for the 2026-2027 academic year (LLCU)

In accordance with the collective agreement between Queen's University and Teaching Assistants (PSAC Local 901), applications are invited from qualified individuals for the following teaching assistant positions in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures:

LLCU 110/3.0 Linguistic Diversity and Identity (Winter Term)

This course explores the diversity of human languages, and the nature of linguistic identity across and within speech communities from a linguistics perspective. Topics that will be covered include: language families; linguistic typology; writing systems; language endangerment and revitalization; and situations of language contact, bilingualism, and sociolinguistic variation.

LLCU 111/3.0 Introduction to Cultures (Winter Term - ONLINE)

This course explores how culture shapes communication, identity, and everyday life from a global perspective. It includes discussion of academic theories about culture, cultural difference and intercultural communication. Students will learn to engage with multiculturalism and cultural diversity.

LLCU 200/3.0 Semiotics: Interpreting the World (Fall Term)

Semiotics is the discipline that studies signs and how these participate in creating meaning and communication. This course focuses on the theoretical system on which semiotic analyses is based (F. de Saussure, C. Peirce, R. Barthes, and others) and will be devoted to various subject areas such as literature, art, film, theatre, and other fields.

LLCU 213/3.0 The Social History of Organized Crime in Canada (Fall Term)

Students will analyze and understand the most important forms of organized crime present in Canada. Its history and evolution are defined, in an attempt to interpret the relationship between major criminal organizations and economic, social, cultural, political, and demographic changes, both domestically and internationally.

LLCU 214/3.0 Mafia Culture and the Power of Symbols, Rituals and Myth (Fall Term)

The course will analyze the cinematic representation of the Mafia and other criminal organizations, such as Yakuza, Triads, Vory V Zakone. The course will focus on how North American cinema (Hollywood) often glorifies the mafiosi's lifestyle. As this characterization of the Mafia and Mafiosi began with the archetypal figures of the bosses, special attention will be given to movies of the 1930s and to Francis Ford Coppola's Godfather trilogy. The goal is the deconstruction of the romantic portrayal of the gangster lifestyle created on the silver screen and analyses of the atrocities committed by organized crime groups.

LLCU 244/3.0 Hips Don't Lie? Music and Culture in Latin America (Winter Term)

This course explores key aspects of Latin American culture through the study of its musical production. We will approach notions of race, class, gender, and national identity by focusing on specific musical genres. By the end of the course, students will have a solid grounding in Latin American culture, as well as a deep understanding of some of its most significant musical manifestations. No previous musical training is needed. Students must commit to do all the readings, watch all the videos and films, listening to all the songs, and participate actively in class discussions.

LLCU 248/3.0 Spanish American Cultural Contexts (Fall Term)

This survey course covers a vast area, several cultures, and many centuries. Students are expected to develop a general understanding of Spanish American culture through an examination of important historical, social, political, economic, and artistic developments in the area.

Some training and preparation is needed before the start of the course. Candidates must be prepared to work outside the regular 9-5 work week and have access to the internet and a computer that meets minimum requirements. Experience with learning management systems (e.g. OnQ) and videoconferencing software (e.g. Zoom or Adobe Connect) would be an asset.

The rate of pay is commensurate with the rates specified in the Collective Agreement of Teaching Assistants (PSAC).

TAships are filled according to Group Preferences set out in Article 12.04 of the [Collective Agreement between Queen's University and the Public Service Alliance of Canada.](#)

In the appointment to TAships within the Bargaining Unit, the Employer shall with respect to graduate students follow the five-level preference system outlined below. No TAships shall be offered to candidates in Group B until the qualified candidates in Group A have been exhausted. No TAships shall be offered to candidates in Group C until the qualified candidates in Group B have been exhausted. No TAships shall be offered to candidates in Group D until the qualified candidates in Group C have been exhausted. TAships may only be offered to candidates in Group E when there remain no qualified candidates in any other Group.

First Preference – Group A

Is for qualified graduate students for whom the TAsip has been granted as part of the funding commitment offered by the Employer registered as:

- (i) students in a department or program or Faculty in which the TAsip will be offered; or
- (ii) students in an interdisciplinary program with TA budget resources.

Second Preference – Group B

Is for qualified full-time graduate students for whom there is no funding commitment offered by the Employer and who are registered as:

- (i) students in a department or program or Faculty in which the TAsip will be offered; or
- (ii) students in an interdisciplinary program with TA budget resources.

Third Preference – Group C

Is for qualified graduate students for whom the TAsip will not form part of the funding commitment offered by the Employer and who are registered as:

- (i) students in a department or program or Faculty in which the TAsip will be offered; or
- (ii) students in an interdisciplinary program with TA budget resources.

Fourth Preference – Group D

Is for qualified graduate students that have previously held a TAsip or TFsip for the Employer.

Fifth Preference – Group E

Is for qualified graduate students that have not met the criteria as set out in 12.04 A, B, C, or D.

What to include in your application:

- Most recent CV
- Unofficial transcripts
- A one-paragraph statement of why you want to TA for a particular course, including a statement of relevant experience/courses taken
 - The TA position for LLCU 111 in Fall 2025 will include leading small group discussions during class time; you are invited to mention any experience relevant to leading this type of activity.
- Statement regarding which applicant group you are in.

Groups A and B – please include a ranked list of course preferences by term.

Please forward your applications to our Mary Smida, Departmental Administrator
(llcuadm@queensu.ca) by end of day on **July 26, 2026.**