English Language Programs is seeking outstanding graduate students to serve as Online Peer Mentors for the ELP Foundations program in Summer Quarter 2021.

ELP Foundations is a hybrid course for incoming international PhD and MFA students that pairs online instruction in the summer before students arrive on campus with in-person experiences in Evanston and Chicago once it is safe to gather again on campus. ELP Foundations provides linguistic, emotional, academic and practical support to entering students through online content on using American English and practical advice on integrating into an American university and the local culture. Students will begin to build their new support network over the summer online and then have the chance to meet their classmates in person once they begin their coursework.

Online Peer Mentors: Through recorded interviews and engagement with the ELP Foundations Canvas course site, Online Peer Mentors share their knowledge about graduate student life, including coursework, research, scholarship, networking, and teaching. Online Peer Mentors can expect to commit 3-6 hours per week to the program when supporting the online course.

Responsibilities include:

In Spring Quarter
- Attending one virtual training meeting with all of the Online Peer Mentors and ELP Staff
- Recording a series of video or written interviews with ELP Staff on topics related to graduate student life

In Summer Quarter (June 21-July 23, plus one short event in early August)
- Attending a weekly online staff meeting of 30 minutes while the course is in session
- Hosting an informal discussion session online once per week for one hour
- Informal commenting on student video and discussion board assignments in Canvas each week that the course is in session
- Answering student questions posted through the Canvas course site or shared via email
- Serving as a virtual mock student in a language assessment in early August (to be scheduled)

Benefits and awards
These service opportunities provide mentors and guides with experience in program development, leadership, outreach with international students, and a mentored team environment in which to build varied skills for future employment. A stipend of $500 will also be provided to Mentors at the conclusion of the online program in Summer Quarter.

Eligibility
- PhD or MFA students in good academic standing who will be funded by TGS in Summer Quarter 2021
- Students must have time to devote to the ELP Foundations responsibilities during Summer Quarter 2021.
- Applicants who are international students should have met The Graduate School’s English Proficiency requirement (an exception may be possible for a particularly strong candidate)

Who Should Apply
- PhD or MFA students who wish to serve the graduate community through outreach to international students. This is an ideal opportunity for those who enjoy event planning, sharing knowledge, creating opportunities for conversation, developing networks within the student community, enhancing intercultural competence, or welcoming international students to the Northwestern community.
- Students who wish to develop skills in leadership, mentorship, and teamwork

How to Apply:
- Fill out the online application form for the Online Peer Mentor position: https://tinyurl.com/TGS-OPM-2021
- The deadline to apply to be an online Peer Mentor is 5:00 PM on Friday, May 14th, 2021