

TA Introduction Slides

Hello, and welcome!
I am your TA (teaching assistant) for this course.

You know what it is to be a student, and you have an idea of what a professor is.
But what is a teaching assistant?

TAs are graduate students and Western employees.

TAs are paid to work 10 hours/week.

TA duties include:

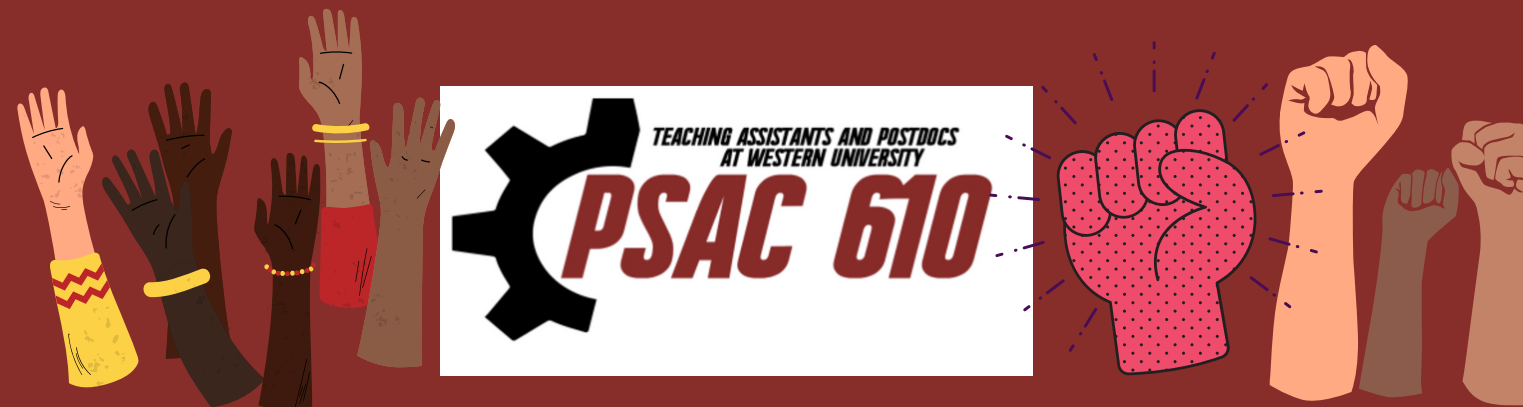
grading coursework

facilitating labs

teaching tutorials/leading discussions

holding office hours

proctoring midterm & exams



Our work as TAs is vital to the functioning of the university. And, in all likelihood, the majority of your work here at Western will be facilitated or graded by TAs.

And yet...
class sizes are growing,
tuition costs are rising,
and TA wages have stagnated.

TAs are expected to accomplish more, with less time,
for pay that does not cover the cost of living.

***That means you're paying MORE for a WORSE
education!***



But there's hope!

TAs at Western are unionized.

One important role the union has is negotiating TA employment contracts with the employer. As employees, these contracts determine TA working conditions, wages, and other important protections and benefits.

***And we're in bargaining
RIGHT NOW!***



What's it to you?

Your TA's working conditions directly impact YOUR education. A good deal for your TA is a good deal for YOU and YOUR experience at Western.

ACTIONS TO SHOW SUPPORT:

**Talk to your classmates
reach out to clubs/associations about supporting TAs**

**On September 20th at 12 PM on UC Hill come to
RESPECT OUR RESEARCH, a rally protesting
the commercialization of higher education.**

