

Health Science Academy of the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health

Dear SGS students,

I have heard from the SGS Student Council that many of you have had difficulty lining up an opportunity to satisfy your SGS 50-hr teaching requirement.

In an effort to provide more possibilities, I recently spoke with Dr. Mary Valmont, Assoc. Exec. Director of Health Science Education at the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health (AAIUH). AAIUH is a partner of SUNY DS and their offices are located on campus. Dr. Valmont manages AAIUH's Health Science Academy (HSA) an afterschool health science pipeline program serving over 200 students a year, grades 6-12 (<https://www.arthurasheinstitute.org/health-science-academy>). She has identified three possibilities for SGS PhD students to teach in their Health Science Academy (HSA). Please see the attached materials for more information about HSA. The opportunities are:

“9th Grade Bridge”: Each spring, approximately 60 local 9th graders who are applicants to HSA's Academy program (10th-12th grade) participate in a bridge program on Downstate's campus. This program runs for nine Saturdays, starting March 4th. Staff (including you) work 9:00-1:30, HS freshmen attend 10:00-12:30. Each session includes a didactic lecture (using HSA-provided materials) about human physiology and a hands-on activity (e.g., mini lab) to reinforce the lecture. Training for staff is scheduled for Saturday, Feb 25, 9:00am-1:00pm and lunch will be served. Your time commitment would be from 9-1:30 each week; therefore, participation in this program for one spring would satisfy your SGS teaching requirement. The HSA anticipates that up to 8 SGS students could participate as teachers each spring.

“The Academy” (grades 10-12): Throughout each fall and spring, HSA runs a 13-week session. Ten of those weeks are clinical modules and labs for the 10th-12th graders, run on Downstate's campus. The spring '23 Academy Hybrid Learning (AHL) semester starts Feb 27. Each module is focused on a body system using HSA-provided materials (e.g., neurological system, cardiovascular system, reproductive system, respiratory system, digestive system; see the attached Curriculum chart for the Spring modules). Each session runs for two hours after school, once a week, 4:30-6:30, Monday-Wednesday. Four of the 10 clinical modules will be in-person this semester. Teaching one of these 10-week clinical modules would require 20 hours of teaching time and another 2-3 hours of training and would therefore satisfy about half of your SGS teaching requirement.

During summer 2023, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) Clinical Research Program could utilize one person to teach biostatistics (using HSA-provided materials). HSA could also use an instructor to teach DDCF's Research Skills (using HSA-provided materials). The Duke program serves five HSA/Duke college alumni from mid-June to early Aug and 10 HSA HS students from late June to early Aug. Classes will be in-person on Downstate campus during summer 2023. Classes are held Mon-Friday, approx. 9:30-3:30 for the 8- or 6-week sessions. Duke interns are expected to work with a SUNY DS faculty mentor in a team and conduct a research project. Credit for your teaching requirement will be established according to the time invested.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these volunteer opportunities, please express your interest via email to Sharon Reid. Sharon will collect the names of all interested students and then work with Dr. Valmont to schedule a Q&A session with you so that you can determine if you would like to participate.

Best,

David

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