Cultural Studies Graduate Group
Graduate Student Researcher Compensation Plan

The Cultural Studies Graduate Group was founded in 2000 to promote "the innovative interweaving of methodologies" in addressing complex questions of broad contemporary social relevance that cannot be studied easily from within a single discipline of the humanities or "soft" social sciences (Judith Newton, Susan Kaiser and Kent Ono, "Proposal for an M.A. and Ph.D. Programme in Cultural Studies at UC Davis," Cultural Studies 12.4, 1998: 547). This standalone Ph.D. program (its M.A. track is not currently active), which quickly attained a high profile both nationally (Cultural Studies Association) and internationally (Association for Cultural Studies), is one of only a handful of such programs in the United States.

The program prioritizes the support of its graduate students and seeks to offer competitive compensation packages to graduate students within the boundaries of its financial resources. It is the practice of the program to support all eligible Ph.D. students at a minimum support level of 49% yearly.

Ph.D. students are typically employed as either Teaching Assistants (TA), or Graduate Student Researchers (GSR). Due to differential compensation policies, TAs are currently compensated at a higher monthly rate. To remain competitive with other institutions, and compensate all Ph.D. students in our program at the same rate, the Executive Committee of the Graduate Group in Cultural Studies has adopted the following compensation plan:

**M.A. Students**

Financial support is not guaranteed.

**Ph.D. Students**

The program's financial commitment is detailed in a letter of financials commitment sent to Ph.D. students upon admission to the program. GSR employment is allocated to students based upon availability and the approval of the Program Chair.

**GSR Compensation**

The standard financial package for full-time Ph.D. students making satisfactory progress in the Cultural Studies Graduate Group is a 25-50% appointment, usually as a TA, reader, or GSR. We recommend that our graduate students hired as 25-50% GSRs be paid according to the published salary scale available on the Office of Graduate Studies
website at Step V or above, whenever possible, but at a minimum of Step III.

Submitted:

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Date

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