FIGS PEER INSTRUCTORS, Fall 2024
Position and Application Information

ONLINE APPLICATION DUE: Noon EST on Friday, October 20, 2023

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TEACH A FIGS?
First-Year Interest Group Seminars (FIGS) are one-credit courses for first-year students focused on an academic or career interest area and taught by experienced Rutgers students in their junior or senior year. Peer Instructors (PIs) develop a ten-week course that exposes students to career, research, and educational opportunities as well as the many resources available at Rutgers. PIs collaborate with the FIGS Team to customize their courses, integrating required FIGS Elements (academic success, diversity and inclusion, personal wellness, etc.) with interactive educational activities. As a FIGS Peer Instructor, you will have the opportunity to share your knowledge of an academic topic, your Rutgers experiences, and your advice for succeeding in college with up to 25 students.

WHAT WILL I GAIN AS A PEER INSTRUCTOR?
At the Office of Career Exploration and Success, we believe teaching a college course is an incredible professional development opportunity for any Rutgers student. Whether you’re planning to study law, practice medicine, work as an engineer, or pursue another field, teaching gives you the skills necessary to succeed. Past PIs have written about their time in a FIGS classroom in graduate school applications, talked about their experiences in job interviews, and applied what they learned to the world of work. Here is how your experience will help you develop each of the most highly sought-after professional skills that employers are looking for:

- **Critical Thinking**: developing meaningful lesson plans that meet FIGS program goals, updating and improving lesson plans based on program feedback, and adapting plans to a classroom in real time
- **Communication**: public speaking, corresponding with students and colleagues, and creating course materials
- **Leadership**: managing group dynamics, leading effective activities, fostering individual relationships, and responding to students’ needs
- **Professionalism**: maintaining accurate class attendance records, grading student work, receiving professional feedback on performance, and serving on the Peer Instructor interview team
- **Equity & Inclusion**: creating a respectful community, leading discussions on diversity, and sharing Rutgers values
- **Teamwork**: using strengths and knowledge to assist students, creating healthy classroom dynamics, fostering relationships with FIGS team, a Faculty Mentor, and students
- **Career and Self-Development**: reflecting on one’s learning while developing and revising lesson plans, and adapting teaching based on the feedback of colleagues and students
- **Technology**: overseeing official course site on Canvas, and utilizing innovative teaching strategies

VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSIONS (please register via Rutgers Handshake):
- Monday, September 25 at 6pm
- Wednesday, September 27 at 7pm
- Friday, October 6 at 5pm

Peer Instructors will earn 3 credits in the spring and a $2,000 stipend in the fall semester.
Questions? Email us at figs@echo.rutgers.edu
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