Peer Academic Leaders (PALs) are responsible for assisting W.H. Thompson Scholars Professional Staff and Graduate Assistants with execution of EDPS 097: First Year Seminar. The course is required to be taken by all W.H. Thompson Scholars who are in their first year at UNL. The course will meet for 12-14 weeks during fall semester 2015, but your duties as a PAL are most likely carry throughout the remainder of the semester for the full 16 weeks.

Duties:
- Assist course instructor with preparation and execution of the course
- Help facilitate discussions
- Help keep attendance and grades throughout the semester
- Help grade assignments/projects alone or in conjunction with the course instructor
- Distribute and copy course materials
- Attend every course instructors lectures
- Hold individual meetings with students when necessary
- Plan and execute one lesson during mid-semester grade check
- Distribute and enter data from pre- and post-semester survey/assessment
- Speak out in class and contribute to course lessons when asked by course instructor

Responsibilities:
- Establish a good working relationship with course instructor, students in class and other peer academic leaders.
- Establish effective relationships with your students.
- Be reliable. When you set up an appointment with the student, be there!
- Learn your students' names, let them know you care about their learning, and try to create a sense of community.
- Prepare for your teaching duties, prepare, prepare, prepare!
- Establish your standards (within the instructors’ guidelines) and stick to them. Your goal should be to provide intellectual challenge along with instructional support.
- And finally, convey enthusiasm for the course subject!

Workload:
- Attend 2 courses per week (50 minutes each)
- Meet with course instructor before and after class (30 minutes each)
- Meet with students as requested
- Grading (1-2 hours/week)
- Data entry (1-2 hours/week)
- Total hours: 5/week

Please submit completed application to W.H. Thompson Scholars Offices in the Jackie Gaughan Multicultural Center by Monday, March 30, 2015.
W.H. Thompson Scholars Peer Academic Leader Application

Personal Information
Name ___________________________ NUID _______________ Year at UNL  1  2  3  4
Email ___________________________ Phone Number ________________________
Summer address _______________________________________________________

Academic Information
Major ____________________________________________  Minor ___________________________
Cumulative GPA ___________  Credit Hours Completed ___________  Credit Hours In Progress ______

Co-Curricular Information
Please list your current activities, including student organizations, sports, research, band, sorority/fraternity, etc.
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
Which of these activities do you anticipate participating in again next year?
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
If you are currently employed, please list your job title, workplace, and hours per week:
_______________________________________________________________________________________
If applicable, how many hours do you anticipate working next year:
_______________________________________________________________________________________

Optional Demographic Information
Completion or non-completion of this section will not affect your candidacy for a mentor position

Sex:  M   F
Ethnic/Racial Identity:   __ African American  __ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
                      __ American Indian/Alaska Native  __ Two or More Races
                      __ Asian  __ White Non-Hispanic
                      __ Hispanic/Latino
Leadership and Interest Essay

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet (typed, please) and include your answers with your application.

1. What is most appealing to you about the opportunity to serve as a W.H. Thompson peer academic leader?
2. Why do you think the role of the peer academic leader is important?
3. What is an important lesson you think every first year W.H. Thompson Scholar should learn and how would you teach it?

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