

Why I Would Choose Southeast for My Master's Study

Graduate students addressing their choice of Southeast overwhelmingly identify the faculty as a primary draw. They comment as follows: "The faculty at SEMO is its greatest asset. They take an interest in the students and help them reach personal goals, even to mentoring them in professional activities."

Others note the opportunities for experiential activities: "Working with students in the Writing Center, the Faulkner Center, Teaching Assistantships, and the University Press, the Small Press Publishing Program, the *Journey* literary magazine, the *Big Muddy*, the *Helix*, and various open reading programs are all outstanding and useful opportunities that only add to the rich experience of attending graduate school at SEMO."

Some find the size of the programs to be a strong draw: "The courses and class sizes in the English program offer a supportive learning atmosphere that is conducive to furthering independent and collaborative thinking skills."

The teaching assistant training program is a major factor in attracting applicants: "The English graduate assistant program is a fantastic reason to pursue graduate studies at Southeast. For me, the program provides means to fulfill both my educational and professional goals, allowing me to gain content knowledge and teaching experience to take into the secondary school classroom upon completion of the program."

And graduate students find "the community feeling" among graduate students to be a significant factor in the appeal of the program. One graduate remembers, "At SEMO, we graduate students went out of our way to help each other when needed."

Within the last ten years, 100% of the applicants to Ph.D. programs have been accepted into those programs, supported with assistantships. Those schools include Purdue University, Texas Christian University, University of Missouri, Oklahoma State University, University of Southern Mississippi, Arizona State University, Louisiana State University, Ball State University, University of Illinois – Champaign-Urbana, Southern Illinois University – Carbondale, State University of New York – Binghamton.