

**DEPARTMENT OF WOOD SCIENCE**  
**Job Posting: Teaching Assistants**  
**Period: Winter Term 1 (September 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025)**

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Scott Renneckar

COURSE #: BEST 200

COURSE NAME: Foundations in Bioproducts and the Bioeconomy

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must have completed coursework related to materials, bioproducts, renewable energy, or sustainability

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

Assisting with grading of assignments including term paper and other written assignments (grammar, structure and use of citations and references); providing assistance in the use of turn-it-in for students and general support for the instructor; meeting with students to discuss and answer questions around assignments and host study sessions as needed; help posting electronic materials to Canvas.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 6 to 9 Hours of work per week

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: **VALID STUDY PERMIT and S.I.N.** (for international students)

In addition, it is strongly recommended that all TAs take the Graduate Instructional Skills Workshop offered by the UBC Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology.

INVIGILATION ASSIGNMENTS DURING EXAMINATION PERIODS ARE A PART OF THE DUTIES OF A TEACHING ASSISTANT. MARKERS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO INVIGILATE.

STIPENDS: Hours and Rates are established by contract between UBC & the TA. Union, CUPE Local 2278.

GTA 1	\$40.16/HR
GTA 2	\$38.65/HR
UTA	\$26.40/HR

These rates will be adjusted to reflect changes in the current collective agreement between CUPE Local 2278 and the University should any changes be made.

Please submit your application through the TA Application System at <https://applications.forestry.ubc.ca/> by **April 30, 2025**.

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Faride Unda

COURSE #: BEST 201

COURSE NAME: Plants, Carbon, and Environment

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must have completed coursework plant biology/physiology and forest and/or agricultural ecology.

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

Helping with the delivery of course material, encouraging group and individual interaction, grading of assignments, and general support for the instructors.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 6 Hours of work per week

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Emily Cranston

COURSE #: BEST 300

COURSE NAME: Biobased Polymers and Bioproducts

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must have completed coursework or have knowledge related to materials, bioproducts, polymer science and chemistry.

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

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HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 6 Hours of work per week

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Hisham Zerriffi

COURSE #: BEST 301

COURSE NAME: Bioenergy

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must be familiar with material flow analysis, systems thinking, sustainable development, and energy policy

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

Helping with the delivery of course material, encouraging group and individual interaction, grading of assignments, and general support for the instructors.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 8 Hours of work per week

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: **VALID STUDY PERMIT and S.I.N.** (for international students)

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Faride Unda

COURSE #: BEST 302

COURSE NAME: Laboratory in Bioeconomy Technology (I)

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 2.5

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

TAs are expected to be familiar with basic concepts of molecular biology and plant tissue culture.

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

TAs are required to teach, together with the lab instructor, one 3-hour lab sessions each week. Most time will be spent assisting students with their experiments. TAs are required to help with the grading of student lab reports, quizzes, and presentations. There are weekly formal prep sessions to familiarize TAs with equipment and procedures.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 12 Hours of work per week

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: **VALID STUDY PERMIT and S.I.N.** (for international students)

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Sarah Gergel

COURSE #: BEST 308

COURSE NAME: Land Use Management and Planning

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Knowledge of basic GIS, remote sensing, landscape ecology fundamentals as well as spreadsheets is required. Preference will be given to applicants with strong scientific writing skills as well as experience with one or more software packages such as Google Earth, GIS software, and/or R

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HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 6 to 9 Hours of work per week

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Feng Jiang

COURSE #: BEST 400

COURSE NAME: Biomimicry and Biocomposites

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must have completed coursework or have knowledge related to materials, bioproducts, polymer science and chemistry.

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

Helping with the delivery of course material, encouraging group and individual interaction, grading of assignments, and general support for the instructors.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 6 Hours of work per week

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Qingshi Tu

COURSE #: BEST 402

COURSE NAME: Industrial Ecology

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must have completed coursework or have knowledge related to sustainability around technology and material use; relevance of biological ecology to industrial ecology; life cycle analysis

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

Helping with the delivery of course material, encouraging group and individual interaction, grading of assignments, and general support for the instructors.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 6 to 8 Hours of work per week

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: **VALID STUDY PERMIT and S.I.N.** (for international students)

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jaya Joshi

COURSE #: BEST 404

COURSE NAME: Synthetic Biology for Bioproducts and Bioeconomy

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must have completed course(s) in biology and chemistry. Knowledge of microbiology, genetics, molecular biology and biotechnology related to bioproducts and biomanufacturing will be an asset.

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

Helping with the delivery of course material, encouraging group and individual interaction, grading class quizzes and assignments, collecting feedback from students after the class and general support for the instructors.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 9 Hours of work per week

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Qingshi Tu

COURSE #: BEST 202

COURSE NAME: Alternative Energy Systems

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must have completed undergraduate courses in science (including Wood/Forestry Science) or engineering with a preference for individuals with a chemical engineering, chemistry, microbiology or biochemistry degree

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

Helping with the delivery of course material, encouraging group and individual interaction, grading of assignments including term papers and other written assignments such as essays, general support for the instructors, providing help with arrangement of field trips, etc.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 12 Hours of work per week

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Patrick Culbert

COURSE #: BEST 203

COURSE NAME: Ecology of Managed Ecosystems

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must have completed coursework plant biology and forest and/or agricultural ecology.

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

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INSTRUCTOR: TBD

COURSE #: BEST 303

COURSE NAME: Applied Biotechnology for Bioproducts

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Knowledge of microbiology, enzymology, industrial use of biotechnology. Understanding of forest resources for bioproducts.

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

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HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 6 Hours of work per week

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Faride Unda

COURSE #: BEST 304

COURSE NAME: Laboratory in Bioeconomy Technology (II)

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 2

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

TAs are expected to be familiar with basic concepts of analytical chemistry of the wood and biomaterials

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

TAs are required to teach, together with the lab instructor, one 3-hour lab sessions each week. Most time will be spent assisting students with their experiments. TAs are required to help with the grading of student lab reports, quizzes, and presentations. There are weekly formal prep sessions to familiarize TAs with equipment and procedures.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 12 Hours of work per week

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INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Hamish van der Ven and S. Renneckar

COURSE #: BEST 403

COURSE NAME: Integrated Strategies for Bioproduct Innovation

TOTAL NUMBER REQUIRED: 1

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must have a good understanding of business sustainability; bioproducts design and use; and business responses to climate change.

**DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL NATURE OF DUTIES:**

Helping with the delivery of course material, running participatory labs, encouraging group and individual interaction, grading of assignments including term papers and other written assignments such as essays, holding office hours, managing course communications through Canvas, and providing general support for the instructors.

HOURS ALLOTTED TO EACH COMPONENT OF JOB DUTIES: Average of 9 Hours of work per week

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GTA 2	\$38.65/HR
UTA	\$26.40/HR

These rates will be adjusted to reflect changes in the current collective agreement between CUPE Local 2278 and the University should any changes be made.

Please submit your application through the TA Application System at <https://applications.forestry.ubc.ca/> by **April 30, 2025**.

Students are members of the Bargaining Unit (CUPE Local 2278) from the time that they are appointed.

*Equity and diversity are essential to academic excellence. An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the B.C. Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as a First Nation, Métis, Inuit, or Indigenous person.*