Dr. Theresa Melton, from the Clemson University [Youth Development Leadership](https://www.clemson.edu/cbshs/departments/prtm/degrees/graduate-degrees/youth-development-leadership.html) program, is currently seeking qualified applicants for a Ph.D. Graduate Assistantship starting in Fall 2023. This position includes a mix of teaching and research activities, which focus on positive youth development, out of school time programs, and equity-based research methodology. This assistantship provides a competitive stipend to on-campus students and includes a full tuition waiver (student fees are not covered by the wavier). Assistantships are for the 9-month academic year and cover 20 hours of work per week. Assistantships are renewable for up to 4 academic years total for Ph.D. students, contingent upon satisfactory performance. Additional pay may be available during the academic year and summer months to teach and/or work on grant-funded projects.

Responsibilities of the Graduate Assistant (GA) would include:

* Assisting in teaching and research activities
* Assisting with the development of quantitative and qualitative data collection protocols and plans through cooperative partnerships
* Coordinating research activities
* Generating peer-reviewed products
* Analyzing, summarizing, and reporting collected data
* Assisting in grant writing activities
* Engaging in international and interprofessional research collaborations
* Presenting research findings at regional, national, and international conferences
* Any other scholarly assignments requested by Dr. Melton

In addition to teaching experience, the successful candidate is expected to be engaged with two specific international research projects:

1. Learning from Eight Decades of Global Character Training: Examining Cultural Adaptations with the Outward Bound International Network – this is a three-year research project that examines how Outward Bound Schools across the world have been adapted to promote character development. ([See announcement](https://www.psu.edu/news/health-and-human-development/story/researchers-receive-14m-study-how-outdoor-education-influences/) for more information)
2. Addressing the Hidden Curriculum: Strengthening Pathways to STEM Graduate Education – this two-year project capitalizes on an established partnership between universities in three island locations: Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Through this partnership, the research team will help develop a curriculum for both faculty and students to identify the hidden curriculum and other barriers to admission with the effort of promoting equity in marine, environmental, and earth sciences. (To learn more about this partnership, see [here](https://www.seasislandsalliance.org/))

Within both projects, we will examine how programs are adapted to meet the needs of youth across a variety of cultural contexts. For more information on topics and populations that are main foci of Dr. Melton’s research, please see her profile at: <https://www.clemson.edu/cbshs/about/profiles/index.html?userid=tmelto5>

Preferred Qualifications:

* Interest in the field of positive youth development
* Experience working on interdisciplinary or multi-disciplinary projects
* Some experience using qualitative and/or quantitative social science research methods

Prospective graduate students interested in applying should email Dr. Melton at [tmelto5@clemson.edu](mailto:%20tmelto5@clemson.edu) for more information.

Information about the Ph.D. program may be found at <https://www.clemson.edu/cbshs/departments/prtm/degrees/graduate-degrees/prtm-phd.html>.

Interested prospective graduate students can submit a graduate application at <https://www.clemson.edu/graduate/admissions/apply/index.html>

A Ph.D. from Clemson University’s PRTM Department prepares students to conduct research, teach, and/or work at an advanced level for universities, and governmental and not-for-profit agencies and organizations