

Catholic Theological Union Employee Position Description

Position:	Graduate Assistantship for the Lilly Grant in Neuroscience and Preaching
Supervisor:	Prof. Edward Foley, Program Director
Hiring Administrator:	Prof. Edward Foley, Program Director
Category:	Administrative, Part time, Exempt

The Grant: Catholic Theological Union has received a major grant (\$1.249 million) from the Lilly Endowment. The goal of the grant is to collect and analyze data from Roman Catholic worshippers regarding what constitutes effective preaching for them. In this scientific endeavor CTU is partnering with Prof. Howard Nusbaum of the University of Chicago and his Attention, Perception and Experience (APEX) lab. The grant extends for 4 years (calendar years 2024 to 2027).

The Assistantship: The graduate assistant's main role will be to assist the program director in guiding the project through its various stages. These could include:

- Helping to identify videos of homilies in English and Spanish, which can be employed for testing subjects in the project;
- Helping to identify and recruit English speaking and Spanish speaking Roman Catholic lay folk to participate in various phases of the study, and to help facilitate their interviews at the APEX lab at the University of Chicago;
- Assisting in the periodic coordination of meetings involving the personnel of the APEX lab, the consultants from the CTU faculty, and the assessment team;
- Assisting in the dissemination of information and publicity about the ongoing progress of the grant;
- Assisting in the coordination of the closing conference of the grant;
- Other responsibilities as they arise in this emerging project.

Preferred skills of applicants

- A collaborative and imaginative spirit combined with personal initiative;
- The ability to communicate in English and Spanish, preferred.
- An appreciation for the importance of the sciences and their contributions to the liturgical arts.
- Computer literacy (e.g., Word, Excel, Google Doc, PowerPoint, zoom, etc.) and gifts or interest in deploying media in the service of this project.
- Bibliographic research skills.

Time Commitment

- The grant extends over 4 years, beginning in January of 2024 to December of 2027.

- There is significant flexibility in time commitments.
- Preference will be given to those who can commit for a year or longer to the assistantship.
- The assistantship will allow for up to 20 hours a week, including during the summer.
- The assistantship will pay \$20.00 an hour.

Application

- Please submit a cover letter plus a resume to the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/4627dbsx>