

Criteria for Selecting and Evaluating Graduate Faculty

(<http://acalog.uncfsu.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=141#the-fsu-graduate-council>)

The Graduate Faculty

Fayetteville State University (FSU) recognizes that a quality graduate program requires a quality faculty, i.e., one with a high degree of competence and commitment to scholarship. For this reason, FSU maintains a graduate faculty. This document outlines the minimum requirements for appointment to the graduate faculty. To meet program-specific accreditation requirements, a school or college may impose additional guidelines and requirements over and beyond the minimum requirements outlined in this document.

Appointment

Appointment to the graduate faculty is made by the FSU Graduate Council upon recommendation by the Department Chairperson and the Dean of the School or College in which the applicant will teach. Faculty appointed to major administrative assignments (i.e., department chairs or above) who are full or associate members of the graduate faculty at the time of their appointment will not be subject to the regular reappointment requirements until they relinquish their administrative roles. Whenever such administrative appointments are concluded, such persons shall be granted a five-year extension of membership, after which each shall be evaluated using the prevailing criteria in the normal three- or five-year cycle.

Categories and Functions of Membership

The three categories of membership shall be designated full, associate, and special. Full membership and associate membership shall be restricted to individuals who hold tenured, tenure track, or clinical faculty (with the exception of Clinical Lecturer) appointments as faculty members.

Full membership shall involve a five (5) year appointment and must be renewed after five (5) years. Faculty members with full membership serve without any restriction(s) and may teach any course designated for them by their department, and may chair a dissertation or thesis committee. For reappointment, faculty will be evaluated on activities occurring during that five (5) year period.

Faculty appointed as full members must meet the following criteria:

1. An earned terminal degree in an appropriate discipline which meets the qualifications required by FSU, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), and/or other specialized accreditation bodies.
2. Hold tenured, tenure track, or clinical faculty (with the exception of Clinical Lecturer) appointment as a faculty member.
3. Have demonstrated competence in research by having written a book or published at least one significant publication in a professional journal.

4. Have a record of active participation in professional organizations related to the academic field of specialization.
5. Evidence of effective teaching at the graduate level.
6. Evidence of continuing professional development.

Associate membership is intended for faculty members who will have responsibilities within the graduate program, but do not meet the criteria for full membership. Associate membership shall involve a three (3) year appointment, and must be renewed every three (3) years. Associate members may teach any graduate level course. An associate member may serve on, but not chair, a dissertation or thesis committee.

Faculty appointed as associate members must meet the following criteria:

1. An earned terminal degree in an appropriate discipline which meets the qualifications required by FSU, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), and/or other specialized accreditation bodies.
2. Hold tenured, tenure track, or clinical faculty (with the exception of Clinical Lecturer) appointment as a faculty member.
3. Have a record of active participation in professional organizations related to the academic field of specialization.
4. Evidence of effective teaching, including graduate level courses.
5. Evidence of continuing professional development.

Special membership shall be accorded faculty who for some determined, specific expertise or experience is able to contribute to a particular area. Special membership shall involve a two (2) year appointment, and must be renewed accordingly. Such members shall teach specific courses related to their area of expertise, and which are designated by their department. A special member may serve on but not chair a dissertation or thesis committee.

Faculty appointed as special members must meet the following criteria:

1. An earned terminal degree in an appropriate discipline which meets the qualifications required by FSU, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and/or relevant specialized accreditation bodies; the terminal degree appropriate for his or her academic field; or experience/ skills that uniquely qualify him or her to teach a specific course. In lieu of the terminal degree, the Director or Department Chairperson shall provide justification for such an exception. The justification shall be used by the FSU Graduate Council in rendering a recommendation to the Department Chairperson and Dean.
2. Have a record of active participation in professional organization related to the academic field of specialization.
3. Evidence of effective teaching, including graduate level courses.
4. Evidence of continuing professional development.

Newly hired faculty members may be approved for temporary graduate faculty special membership for the first semester immediately following hiring upon the review and

recommendation of the requisite college dean. The recommendation documents that the faculty member meets the minimum criteria for graduate faculty special membership. A memo documenting this temporary status will be submitted to the chair of the FSU Graduate Council prior to the start of the semester in which the new hire assumes teaching duties. The new faculty member will submit a graduate faculty application at the appropriate level by the end of his/ her first semester at FSU.