



The University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
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## **College Criteria for Appointment to the Graduate Faculty**

The main responsibilities of members of the Graduate Faculty are to effectively teach in the College's and University's graduate programs (including directing the research of graduate students), engage in high- quality scholarly research, and provide service contributions to these programs. Hence, the College's criteria for faculty appointment to the Graduate Faculty require faculty to meet appropriate standards in these areas, particularly in scholarship and teaching.

There are two categories for membership of the Graduate Faculty. All full-time College faculty members holding academic rank of Professor, Associate Professor, and Assistant Professor who meet the criteria established below are eligible for membership as regular Graduate Faculty. In addition, certain non-tenure track and part-time instructional faculty who meet the criteria established below are eligible for membership as Associate Graduate Faculty.

### **Criteria for Appointment as Regular Graduate Faculty**

The College's criteria for appointment as a regular member of the Graduate Faculty require tenured or tenure-track status, appropriate academic preparation, continued active involvement in scholarship and active involvement in teaching in graduate programs.

The College's academic criterion for appointment as a regular member of the Graduate Faculty are that the faculty member meets the College's current standards for Academic Qualification for tenured and tenure-track faculty as specified in the College's Policy Statement on Academic and Professional Qualifications (see [http://belkcollege.uncc.edu/sites/belkcollege.uncc.edu/files/media/AQ-PQ\\_Standards%20October%2031%202007.pdf](http://belkcollege.uncc.edu/sites/belkcollege.uncc.edu/files/media/AQ-PQ_Standards%20October%2031%202007.pdf)). In brief, these Academic Qualification standards require that:

1. The faculty member holds an appropriate doctorate in his/her teaching discipline.
2. A faculty member who has earned the appropriate doctorate within the most recent five-year period is deemed to be academically qualified.
3. If the faculty member holds an appropriate doctorate completed prior to the most recent five-year period, the faculty member demonstrates continued scholastic currency and involvement by publishing at least three articles in refereed journals in the individual's (broadly defined) academic field and engaging in appropriate professional development activities within the most recent five-year period.

Continued appointment of a tenured or tenure-track College faculty member as a regular member of the Graduate Faculty also requires that the faculty member be actively engaged in graduate

education in the most recent five-year period. The primary method of demonstrating this involvement is effectively teaching (as measured by student and/or peer evaluations of teaching performance) at least two graduate courses in the most recent five-year period. Alternatively, active involvement may be demonstrated by the effective direction of graduate theses and dissertations (as measured by timely graduations and/or academic publications).

### **Criteria for Appointment as Associate Graduate Faculty**

The College employs a number of Clinical Professors (full-time, doctoral qualified non-tenure track faculty) and highly qualified part-time instructors. The College's criteria for appointment of these faculty members as Associate Graduate Faculty are that the individual faculty member meets the College's Academic or Professional Qualification standards and is actively involved in teaching at the graduate level.

The College's current standards for Academic Qualification are specified in the College's Policy Statement on Academic and Professional Qualifications. In brief, these standards require that:

1. The faculty member holds an appropriate doctorate.
2. A faculty member who has earned the appropriate doctorate within the most recent five-year period is deemed to be academically qualified.
3. If the faculty member holds an appropriate doctorate completed prior to the most recent five-year period, the faculty member demonstrates continued scholastic competence by producing at least four intellectual contributions (these include but are not limited to refereed journals publications, refereed proceedings, book chapters, research monographs, textbooks, published cases and academic conference presentations) in the individual's academic field and engaging in appropriate professional development activities within the most recent five-year period.

Some Clinical Professors and all Lecturers (both full-time and part-time) teaching College courses are classified as professionally qualified. Again, the standards for Professional Qualification are specified in the College's Policy Statement on Academic and Professional Qualifications. In brief, these standards require that:

1. A Clinical Professor holds an appropriate doctoral degree in his/her teaching discipline or a Lecturer holds an appropriate master's degree in his/her teaching discipline.
2. The faculty member has practical work experience that is relevant to his or her teaching area, significant in duration and responsibility, and current at the time of hiring.
3. As is the case with Academic Qualification, Professional Qualification may be lost if there is no evidence of continuous learning to maintain currency in the field during the most recent five-year period. To remain Professionally Qualified, a Clinical Professor must demonstrate continuing currency by engaging in activities identified above for the maintenance of Academic Qualification for an Academically Qualified Clinical Faculty member. To remain Professionally Qualified, a full-time Lecturer must engage in the same activities identified for the maintenance of Academic Qualification for Clinical Faculty, or alternatively engage in activities that are relevant to the continuing practice of

his/her profession. A part-time Lecturer who remains employed in his or her area of expertise, by virtue of their full-time employment is deemed to be maintaining currency.

The College follows the University's requirement that full justification must be provided for a faculty member not holding an appropriate doctoral degree before the faculty member can be appointed as an Associate Graduate Faculty and begin to teach in a graduate program. In such a case, Department Chairs must follow the procedure specified in the document "Exceptions to the Criteria for Accreditation of the Commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools" (see <http://www.provost.uncc.edu/epa/unccforms/aa-21.doc>).

Continued appointment of an Academically Qualified or Professionally Qualified Clinical Professor or Lecturer as an Associate Graduate Faculty also requires that the faculty member be actively engaged in graduate education in the most recent five-year period. A faculty member in this category demonstrates active involvement through effective teaching (as measured by student and/or peer evaluations of teaching performance) of at least two graduate courses in the most recent five-year period.

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