

Guidelines for Graduate Faculty Qualification Standards for the College of Media & Communication

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Graduate Faculty

This document outlines the qualification standards for graduate faculty in the College of Media & Communication. A faculty member may serve as a Regular Member or Temporary Member status based on qualifications and needs of the College. The graduate faculty consists of faculty members who have qualified for and been approved to serve in a particular graduate faculty status. Appointment to the Graduate Faculty may be made as a Regular Member or Temporary Member. Each category has associated qualification standards, appointment requirements and procedures, and privileges and responsibilities as defined below.

The graduate faculty for the College of Media & Communication compile and enforce the qualification standards that a prospective member must meet in order to be recommended to membership on the Graduate Faculty. The qualification standards are approved by the College of Media & Communication Director for Graduate Study, the Graduate Council and the Dean of the Graduate School.

A. Regular Member

1. Qualifications

A Regular Member of the Graduate Faculty must be a full-time faculty member with a terminal degree. A Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) or Juris Doctorate (J.D.) or Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) degree may be considered an appropriate terminal degree in the College of Media & Communication depending on the teaching areas for which one is assigned. Specialized degrees in other related areas may also be considered appropriate. Regular Members must have documented evidence of an appropriate level of scholarly activity and continued participation in graduate education at the course, committee and program levels.

In exceptional cases (as outlined in a 1984 Board of Trustees action and a 1985 College response to the Board amendment), appropriate employment and performance experience may be accepted in lieu of the terminal degree. A written statement from the dean and department chair, as appropriate, will note the understanding at the time of hiring regarding the substitution of appropriate professional experience for the terminal degree. The statement will be given to the candidate and will be placed in the candidate's personnel folder. When an individual is so employed, possession of the terminal degree will not be considered in future questions of promotion and tenure.

2. Appointment requirements and procedure

Application must include evidence of professional activity related to graduate education such as research, publication, exhibition or performance, membership in professional organizations, participation in regional and national meetings, excellence in teaching and the applicant must meet the qualification standards of the program or department.

An appointment is recommended by the College of Media & Communication department/program graduate faculty and Director of Graduate Study and approved by the Graduate Council. Appointment is for up to a six year term at which time the faculty member may reapply; although individual programs, department, or colleges may choose to have shorter terms of appointment.

Upon hire as a pre-tenure or tenured faculty member possessing a terminal degree in an appropriate discipline, an initial graduate faculty appointment ASU Faculty Handbook of Policies and Procedures 42 Section II Personnel Policies will be made for up to a six year term. Upon promotion to associate or full professor, a graduate faculty appointment will be made or an existing appointment will be reset to a new term of up to six years.

3. Privileges and responsibilities

A Regular Member may teach graduate courses at any level, serve on the Graduate Council; direct research; and serve on thesis and dissertation committees for students pursuing masters, specialist and doctoral degrees.

With the approval of the Director of Graduate Study and the Dean of the Graduate School, a Regular Member may chair thesis and dissertation committees for students pursuing masters, specialist and doctoral degrees. The Graduate School recommends that faculty who chair thesis and dissertation committees either have previous experience on such committees or work with a mentor, a faculty member who has successfully chaired thesis or dissertation committees in the past.

B. Temporary Member

1. Qualifications

An individual with a terminal degree or documented knowledge and equivalent experience shall be eligible for appointment to the graduate faculty as a Temporary Member to teach specific courses and/or serve on committees over a specified time period.

2. Appointment requirements and procedure

Application is through, or nomination is by the College of Media & Communication graduate faculty or the Director of Graduate Study. Recommendations must include specific qualifications as related to the course(s) to be taught or committee membership. An appointment is approved by the Graduate Dean for a specified time period. At the end of the specified time period, a Temporary Member of the Graduate Faculty may reapply.

3. Privileges and responsibilities

A Temporary Member may teach graduate level courses at the masters, specialist and doctoral levels and serve on student committees. A Temporary Member appointment is only valid for the time frame specified and for the course(s) or activities approved on the application.