

**College of Arts and Sciences
Georgia State University
GRADUATE FACULTY POLICY**

Policy Title:	College Graduate Faculty Policy
Version:	2
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University Approval:	Committee on Academic Programs: 03/24/2015
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The College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Faculty Policy is in compliance with the university policy as approved 11/15/2012.

1 **I. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS**

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3 The Georgia State University Policy on Graduate Faculties (university policy) divides the
4 graduate faculty into two distinct groups: Graduate Research Faculty and Graduate
5 Professional Faculty. Graduate Research Faculty are actively engaged in scholarly research
6 and creative work in their disciplines through which they are expected to generate and
7 disseminate knowledge. A faculty member must hold Graduate Research Faculty status in
8 order to teach doctoral research-oriented courses and research-oriented masters courses
9 (as identified by the academic unit); serve as chair, director, member, or reader of Ph.D.
10 dissertation committees and chair/director of research-oriented masters theses. Graduate
11 Professional Faculty, on the other hand, are practitioners that actively contribute to their
12 professions and are expected to maintain current knowledge of and involvement with their
13 disciplines. A faculty member must hold Graduate Professional Faculty status in order to
14 teach doctoral courses in professional doctorate programs other than research-oriented
15 courses (as identified by the academic unit); serve as chair/director, member, or reader of
16 dissertations/capstone committees for professional doctorates and chair/direct applied
17 master’s theses. Currently the College of Arts and Sciences does not offer professional
18 graduate programs, and, accordingly, the college does not have a Graduate Professional
19 Faculty. In conjunction with the university policy, these guidelines define the criteria and
20 processes for the appointment of members of the Graduate Research Faculty in the college.

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22 **II. GRADUATE RESEARCH FACULTY**

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24 **A. Tenured/tenure track faculty:**

25 All untenured tenure track faculty will hold provisional Graduate Research Faculty status
26 until their promotion and tenure review. Because of disciplinary practices, College of Arts
27 and Sciences faculty with provisional Graduate Research Faculty status may chair doctoral
28 dissertation committees. Newly hired tenured faculty will be appointed to the Graduate
29 Research Faculty upon hiring, as they will have demonstrated that they are an active and
30 productive scholar as a requirement for being recommended for hire with tenure.

31
32 Tenure track and tenured faculty members will have their Graduate Research Faculty
33 status reviewed by their department and its continuation recommended or denied as part
34 of the tenure, promotion, and post-tenure review processes. The period of review for
35 Graduate Research Faculty status will coincide with the tenure, promotion, or post-tenure
36 review that the faculty member is going through. Successful tenure and/or promotion
37 reviews will automatically result in the continuation of a faculty member’s graduate faculty
38 status. At the end of the post-tenure review process, the Dean’s Office, in consultation with
39 the department chair, will make a recommendation to the Provost on the faculty member’s
40 Graduate Research Faculty status, based on the overall review and the criteria for current
41 scholarly productivity and effective teaching at the graduate level defined in the university
42 policy. If a tenured faculty member’s Graduate Research Faculty status is discontinued, it
43 will be reconsidered as part of their next post-tenure review.

44
45 Graduate Research Faculty appointed to designated administrative positions (i.e.,
46 department chair, associate dean, dean, associate provost, vice president, provost,

47 president) will retain Graduate Research Faculty status for the duration of their
48 administrative appointment. When an administrator returns to the faculty full time, their
49 Graduate Research Faculty status will be reviewed as part of their next post-tenure review,
50 the timing for which is specified in the college's promotion and tenure manual.

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52 Graduate Research Faculty from one department may perform the duties of Graduate
53 Research Faculty in another department if agreed upon by both departments.

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55 **B. Non-tenure track faculty:**

56 University policy allows for the appointment of regular full-time non-tenure track faculty to
57 the Graduate Research Faculty "in exceptional cases."

58

59 Faculty whose position and assigned workload allows for involvement in graduate
60 education programs may be considered for Graduate Research Faculty status by the
61 department if they hold the appropriate terminal degree in their field and meet the criteria
62 for current scholarly productivity described in the university policy. They must be
63 nominated by a member of the department's Graduate Research Faculty, and the
64 nomination may come at the time of the initial appointment or at the beginning of spring
65 semester each year. Such faculty cannot chair Ph.D. committees.

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67 As required by university policy, these exceptions are individually reviewed by the Provost.
68 As each recommendation is forwarded it will be accompanied by (a) information on how
69 many full-time faculty, distributed by rank, are in the department, (b) how many faculty in
70 the department have Graduate Research Faculty status, and (c) how many current
71 members of the department's Graduate Research Faculty attained that status as exceptions
72 to the policy. If granted Graduate Research Faculty status, non-tenure track and adjunct
73 faculty will have their status reviewed as part of their regular ongoing review. If not
74 granted Graduate Research Faculty status, non-tenure track faculty members must wait
75 two years to re-apply for reconsideration.

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77 **III. FACULTY WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE GRADUATE RESEARCH FACULTY**

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79 Departments may designate faculty who are not Graduate Research Faculty to teach
80 graduate courses, which are not research-oriented doctoral courses (such as a pedagogy
81 course) or research-oriented master's courses. Such designation must be in compliance
82 with guidelines published by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and other
83 discipline-specific accrediting agencies.

84

85 Department chairs may approve the inclusion on a thesis or dissertation committee an
86 individual who is not a member of the Graduate Research Faculty in order to include
87 researchers and other professionals who may bring special expertise to the committee.
88 Department chairs also may approve Graduate Research Faculty who have separated from
89 the university or Emeriti faculty to continue to supervise existing graduate students to
90 completion of their current degree programs.