

Graduate Faculty Membership Criteria

Christopher C. Gibbs College of Architecture

“Any academic unit offering courses or coursework in any College awarding an undergraduate degree on the Norman campus may appoint members of the Graduate Faculty. In order to make such an appointment, the academic unit must elect a Graduate Faculty Committee made up of members of the Graduate Faculty. The Graduate Faculty Committee shall have the following responsibilities:

- 1. Developing and publishing the criteria for membership on the Graduate Faculty which are appropriate for that academic unit. Such criteria must be consistent with Section 2 of this Article.*
- 2. Providing the Graduate Dean with the unit's criteria for membership.*
- 3. Providing the Graduate Dean with a list of members of the Graduate Faculty in accordance with Section 2.a.45. of this Article.”* (Graduate Faculty Charter, IV.1.a)

The Gibbs College of Architecture (GCA) Graduate Faculty Committee shall consist of a representative from each Division including the Graduate Liaisons and Division Directors.

Terminal degree(s):

The Interior Design discipline views graduate level professional degree (MS or MFA) as its terminal degree. As indicated by Interior Design Educators Council *“Depending on the institution and their focus, other post-professional graduate level degrees such as a Master of Fine Arts in Interior Design or Interior Architecture, or, Master of Interior Design, or Master of Architecture may be considered a terminal degree.”*

(<https://www.idec.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=4016>)

The Regional and City Planning profession considers professional master’s degrees as the terminal professional degree. The PhD in planning or a related field is a terminal research degree. Both are appropriate for graduate instruction in a professional program. For instructional purposes, due to the interdisciplinary nature of the profession, related masters degrees such as those in public administration, architecture or landscape architecture, geography or GIS, or in any of the sustainability sciences would be appropriate for graduate instructors.

The Construction Science Division considers a master’s degree in construction or any allied discipline such as design, planning, or engineering as a terminal degree. Construction being an applied discipline, master’s degree is adequate for instructional purpose and prepare graduates to succeed professionally in the Architecture/Engineering/Construction industry. This standard is consistent with the accrediting body, the ACCE.

In Architecture, an M. Arch is considered a terminal professional degree (AIA), and the M.S. or M. Arch are sufficient for graduate instruction. Faculty often possess terminal doctorates in a variety of disciplines in engineering, design, and the behavioral sciences, and the Ph.D., D. Phil, and Sc. D. are considered terminal research degrees.

In Landscape Architecture, the MLA is considered the terminal degree as certified by the American Society of Landscape Architects and the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture. Faculty commonly obtain a Ph.D. in Landscape Architecture or allied discipline, such as planning, design, spatial analysis, and social and behavioral sciences.

Gibbs College of Architecture value interdisciplinary education and many of our faculty have interdisciplinary graduate level professional degrees. .

Tested experience criteria:

Additional graduate faculty members could be appointed at SM status with Bachelor’s degree in Planning, Design and Construction (PDC) or allied disciplines and minimum 10 years of professional practice experience and professional licensure.

Appointment process:

Graduate faculty appointments in the GCA are completed at the college level as approved by the GCA Graduate Faculty Committee. Candidate faculty submit a CV for review and a rationale for scope of appointment is provided by the program coordinator and appropriate division director to the committee and division faculty. Appointments may be considered at any time. Committee approval must be obtained before the endorsement of paperwork to the graduate college.

Term: The normal term for regular members of the Graduate Faculty is seven years. The normal term for special members of the Graduate Faculty is two years.

Appointment criteria:

Graduate Faculty Appointment	Research, Scholarship or Creative activity Required	Degree Required
RM0 SM authority to teach classes	Evidence of substantial professional achievements or research and creative activities of sufficient quality to receive professional/academic recognition.	MS degree in PDC or allied disciplines or Bachelor’s degree in PDC or allied disciplines with minimum 10 years of professional practice experience and professional licensure.
RM1 SM authority to serve on master’s committees	Same as RM0	MS degree in PDC or allied disciplines. or Bachelor’s degree in PDC or allied disciplines with minimum 10 years of professional practice

		experience and professional licensure.
RM2 SM authority to chair non-thesis master's committees*	Research and creative activity of sufficient quality to receive academic recognition including but not limited to: publication and or presentation of scholarly work in referred journals and/or conferences; exhibitions; grants received and grant applications; awards and other forms of recognition in research and creative activity pertinent to PDC disciplines or professional recognition of sufficient quality including but not limited to: minimum 10 years of professional experience with professional licensure; awards and other forms of recognition professional practice pertinent to PDC disciplines and industries.	MS degree in PDC or allied disciplines. or Bachelor's degree in PDC or allied disciplines with minimum 10 years of professional practice experience and professional licensure.
RM3 SM authority to serve on doctoral committees and/or chair master's thesis committees*	Research and creative activity of sufficient quality to receive academic recognition including but not limited to: publication and or presentation of scholarly work in referred journals and/or conferences; exhibitions; grants received and grant applications; awards and other forms of recognition in research and creative activity pertinent to PDC disciplines.	MS degree in PDC or allied disciplines
RM4 SM authority to chair doctoral committees*	Same as RM3, evidence of sustained, peer reviewed work to be reappointed at RM4.	PhD in PDC or allied disciplines

*Appointments of SM faculty to chair committees and/or count toward the departmental majority require review by the Graduate Council Graduate Faculty Membership Subcommittee and approval of the Graduate Dean, based on three criteria: close association with the unit hosting the graduate program, permanence, and credentials comparable to regular Graduate Faculty members with the same graduate privileges.

Continuing research, scholarly, or creative activity:

Research and creative activity of sufficient quality to receive academic recognition including but not limited to: publication and or presentation of scholarly work in referred journals and/or conferences; exhibitions; grants received and grant applications; awards and other forms of recognition in research and creative activity pertinent to PDC disciplines.

Teaching and mentorship expectations:

Teaching and mentorship of graduate students shall be evaluated annually according to four criteria: (1) student perceptions and feedback; (2) course materials, (3) learning outcomes, and (4) professional development. Each component will have a percentage weight with expected performance as per the GCA annual faculty evaluation criteria and process.

Regular performance review:

Performance review of all faculty members in the GCA is completed annually by the appropriate Division Director and Committee A members and approved by the Dean.

The evaluation of faculty members' contributions, with multiple and diverse skills, to the missions of the department, the college, and the university is a complex process. The GCA annual faculty evaluation process allows a wide-ranging contributions to our mission to be adequately assessed. It is expected that there be competence in executing the teaching assignments, scholarly work, and service undertaken. These are the criteria under which people are hired and continue in service to the students, their peers and professions, and the institution.

Retention/renewal criteria and process:

The membership status of each faculty will be reviewed every seven years based on their performance in the annual reviews by the appropriate Division Director and the GCA Graduate Faculty Committee. It is anticipated that tenured and new tenure-track faculty hires without the doctoral degree will be appointed at the RM3 level.

The membership status of SM's will be reviewed every two years by the appropriate Division Director and the GCA Graduate Faculty Committee as constituted by the College.

The primary consideration in all decisions regarding the graduate status of faculty in the Gibbs College of Architecture is the impact that faculty members will have on the graduate programs in the college.

Standards and process for rescission of graduate faculty appointments or selected privileges:

Graduate faculty appointments can be cancelled with the approval of the appropriate Division Director and GCA Graduate Faculty Committee in cases when graduate faculty does not meet the expectation during annual evaluation or does not perform responsibilities as listed in the GCA annual faculty evaluation criteria.

Adopted by the College June 2022

Approved by graduate dean, September 30, 2022