

Graduate Faculty Membership Criteria for Economics

Criteria adopted in May 2022 by the Graduate Faculty Committee (GFC). They supersede the previously governing criteria that were submitted to the Graduate College in 2000.

The Graduate Faculty Committee for Economics shall consist of Committee A members. This committee will certify the criteria outlined below are applied consistently and fairly, in order to maintain the highest standards of quality in determining the Department’s graduate faculty. The qualifications used for Graduate Faculty Status will be revisited every five years.

Terminal degree(s): The terminal Degree in the field of Economics is the Ph.D. in Economics.

Appointment process: Regular Graduate Faculty Appointment will follow the criteria outlined in this document. Nominations for special member (SM) appointments will originate from the Department Chair, in consultation with the Graduate Faculty Committee.

Term: The normal term for regular members of the Graduate Faculty is five years. See below for additional comments on term length and appointment renewal.

Graduate Faculty Appointment	Appointment Criteria
RM0 SM authority to teach graduate classes	The faculty member must be tenured, tenure-track, ranked renewable term, or non-ranked RT lecturer in the OU department of Economics, OR have a Ph.D. in Economics.
RM1 SM authority to serve on master’s committees	The faculty member must be tenured, tenure-track, ranked renewable term, or non-ranked RT lecturer in the OU department of Economics, AND have a Ph.D. in Economics.
RM2 SM authority to chair non-thesis master’s committees*	The faculty must meet the RM1 criteria AND must have submitted at least 2 research outputs within the past 5 years (research outputs could be journal articles, conference proceedings, book chapters, or monographs).
RM3 SM authority to serve on doctoral committees and/or chair master’s thesis committees*	The faculty must meet the RM2 criteria AND must meet at least one of the following two criteria : 1 – they have been hired into a Tenure-Track position within the last 5 years; or 2 – they have published at least 2 research outputs in the past 5 years (research outputs could be journal articles, conference proceedings, book chapters, or monographs).
RM4 SM authority to chair doctoral committees*	The faculty must be tenured AND must have published at least 2 research outputs in the past 5 years (research outputs could be journal articles, conference proceedings, book chapters, or monographs).

*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.

With permission from the GFM committee, RM3 faculty may co-chair Doctoral Committees if it is with another faculty holding the RM4 designation or SM (with chair privileges) designation.

Teaching and mentorship expectations: The department expects faculty mentoring graduate student's by serving on (and chairing) their graduate committees to actively meet with the student and provide feedback on the student's thesis/dissertation work. This might involve in-person meetings, zoom/virtual meetings, emails, reviewing submitted work to provide feedback, and other ongoing mentoring activities.

Continuing research, scholarly, or creative activity: Upon first attaining a new Graduate Faculty Appointment (e.g., reaching RM4 following Tenure), that designation will last a minimum of 5 years. At the 5-year mark, the statement below governing "regular performance review" will then govern the retention of the appointment.

Regular performance review: Graduate Faculty Appointments will be revisited every year. Following promotion/tenure, faculty will attain RM4 status the Fall after being awarded Tenure. If a faculty member fails to actively maintain the criteria for a status level they previously held, they will be notified of the deficiency. As a courtesy to students, and due to the ongoing nature of Thesis/Doctoral committee work, a faculty member will continue to hold the previous appointment for a 2-year period following the identification of the deficiency, during which they have the opportunity to eliminate the deficiency. If the deficiency remains after completion of the grace period, the faculty member loses that status and moves to the otherwise highest appointment their current record merits.

Adopted by Committee A members Gregory S. Burge, Le Wang, Lex Holmes, May 24th, 2022.

Approved by graduate dean, April 13, 2023