

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
TENURE AND PROMOTION GUIDELINES (9.15b)

I. PRELIMINARIES

- A. Mission: The Department of Religious Studies engages in the analysis and interpretation of those features of the human experience and expressions of ~~culture~~ commonly UH IHUUHG WR DV 3VDFUHG´ RU 3UHOLJLR XV´ 5HOLJLRQ human existence historically, crossculturally, and especially today globally. It thereby is a critical dimension of the liberal arts and sciences at the very center of the university experience. The scholarly study of religion draws on multidisciplinary approaches, especially in the humanities and social sciences, for examining a wide range of phenomena — myth, symbol, and ritual; the genesis, transmission and interpretation of religious texts; the formation, history, sustainability, ecology, and character of religious communities; traditions of religious belief and practice; the role of religion in politics, society, culture, and global affairs; religious ethics; religion and the arts; as well as the material culture of religion. The Department of Religious Studies emphasizes theories and methods for the scholarly study of religion globally. It is committed to preparing students for a diversity of careers and advanced study as active citizens of a religiously diverse global world.
- B. General Expectations: The faculty of Religious Studies is composed of outstanding scholar teachers. Candidates for tenure and promotion therefore are expected to exhibit

2. Departmental Review: The application for tenure and/or promotion will be reviewed and

Department. This includes considerations involving the level of instruction, number and nature of course preparations, as well as class size and diversity (majors/nonmajors), with larger numbers (fifty or more) of students, courses in the core USF curriculum and writing intensive courses being considered, on balance, as more demanding. Ideally, every faculty member should offer one large enrollment course or a writing intensive course with twenty or more students or a course serving the core university curriculum or some combination

Arts and Sciences, and University, including commencement and other similar events.

2. Profession: Holding office in a professional society, editing a professional journal serving on its editorial board, organizing and/or chairing sessions at professional meetings, refereeing research papers or book manuscripts submitted for publication, among other activities related to professional organizations as well as consulting or evaluating for another institution.
3. Public Service: The sharing or disseminating of scholarly expertise and knowledge outside the University, including participating in community outreach and participation in local, regional, or national government or civic organizations.

Service activities should reflect the commitment to the institutional and social role of faculty in a public university and they should involve approximately six major activities (such as service on a departmental, college or university committee, substantial professional involvement, and/or substantial participation in local, regional, or national organizations). The service activities of tenure earning faculty normally will not be extensive (entail more than six major activities, such as service on a community participation with a community organization, during the tenure earning years) and they usually will be concentrated in the Department.

### III. PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR

Promotion to Professor in Religious Studies at USF requires excellence in teaching and research beyond tenure and promotion and substantial contributions in service, especially professional service activities. Successful candidates must meet and then exceed requirements for tenure and promotion during the five years preceding the application for promotion to full professor. This requirement is to be supported by conclusive evidence of a reputation beyond the University, among peers on a national or international level, for excellence in research and teaching and at least a substantial record of service (beyond the expectations for promotion to associate professor). Excellences in teaching and research as well as significant contributions in service are indicated by the following standards.

- A. Teaching: The senior faculty, like all faculty, are expected to make substantial high quality offerings. Excellence in teaching is assessed by the same standards as specified above for promotion.

Senior faculty are expected to contribute to the undergraduate teaching mission with a repertoire of offerings that includes at least three different courses in support of the undergraduate curriculum. Considerations involving the level of instruction, number and nature of course preparations, as well as class size and diversity (majors/nonmajors), with larger numbers (fifty or more) of students, courses in the core USF curriculum, and writing intensive courses being considered, on balance, as more demanding. Ideally, every faculty member should offer one large enrollment course or a writing intensive course with twenty or more students or a

