A member of the Graduate Faculty at Georgia Southern University must be an active, productive, creative scholar or creative performer in his/her discipline. In order to teach graduate students how to be active scholars, practitioners, and/or performers in their own right, Graduate Faculty must be involved in the current knowledge, methods, and techniques of their disciplines. This modeling of sustained scholarship/performace is the cornerstone of quality graduate education. There are two Categories of Graduate Faculty: Member and Affiliate. Members of the Graduate Faculty are professorial faculty on tenured or tenure-track appointments. Affiliate Graduate Faculty include research appointees, visiting, temporary, adjunct, or part-time faculty who may appropriately teach graduate classes and serve on thesis and dissertation committees. Affiliate can also be used to recognize outstanding scholars, including those who work in government agencies, private industry, healthcare, and education who are not full-time employees of Georgia Southern University whom the College of Graduate Studies welcomes to participate on thesis and dissertation committees.

Members are eligible:

- to teach graduate courses;
- for memberships on University graduate committees;
- to serve on comprehensive examination committees; and/or
- to direct and/or chair master's and doctoral committees as approved by the department/school or division.

Affiliates are eligible:

- to teach graduate courses;
- to serve on comprehensive examination committees; and/or
- for membership on and/or co-chair master's and doctoral committees as approved by the department/school or division.

Member and Affiliate graduate faculty status is granted permanently.

University-Wide Criteria

The minimum University-wide criteria for appointment to the Member Category of the Graduate Faculty shall be:

- an earned terminal degree;
- demonstrated ability to teach graduate courses;
- demonstrated involvement in graduate programming and curriculum, including advising responsibilities and directing student research; and
- demonstrated evidence of scholarly activity.

The minimum University-wide criteria for appointment to the Affiliate category of the Graduate Faculty shall be:

- SACS minimum for faculty credentials; and
- College criteria as applicable.

Faculty Committees in Departments/Schools and Colleges may develop additional criteria for Graduate Faculty. The Graduate Committee of the Faculty Senate must approve these criteria.