



RESOLUTION TO MODIFY GRADUATE FACULTY POLICY, 3356-10-02

WHEREAS, University Policies are being reviewed and reconceptualized on an ongoing basis; and

WHEREAS, this process can result in the modification of existing policies, the creation of new policies, or the deletion of policies no longer needed; and

WHEREAS, action is required by the Board of Trustees prior to replacing and/or implementing modified or newly created policies, or to rescind existing policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Youngstown State University does hereby approve the modification of the University Policy stated above and attached hereto.

**Board of Trustees Meeting
September 17, 2026
YR2027-21**

3356-10-02 Graduate faculty.

Responsible Division/Office: Office of Research Services and Graduate Studies
Responsible Officer: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Revision History: December 1997; March 2007; March 2011;
December 2016; September 2021; September
2026
Board Committee: Academic Excellence and Student Success
Effective Date: September 17, 2026
Next Review: 2031

- (A) Policy statement. The graduate faculty shall consist of the president of the university, the provost and vice president for academic affairs, associate provost research services and graduate studies, the deans of the colleges, and faculty members qualified to teach graduate courses as determined by the associate provost and the graduate faculty.
- (B) Definition. Graduate faculty membership includes:
- (1) Category one. Category one faculty members are full- and part-time faculty members employed by the Youngstown state university (university) who are selected by the college graduate studies committee (committee) and graduate council based on evidence of scholarship and professional development in the field or discipline appropriate to graduate faculty membership requirements established by the committee.
- (a) All category one faculty may teach and supervise master's and doctoral level work and serve on or serve as a chairperson/advisor of master's level thesis and doctoral level dissertation committees. Those faculty serving as chairpersons/advisors of doctoral committees shall meet advanced requirements determined by the appropriate college departments and approved by the associate provost research services and graduate studies in addition to those necessary for category one members.

- (b) Full-time category one faculty have full rights and privileges in governance of graduate studies.
 - (c) Part-time category one faculty do not have the full rights and committee privileges but may be appointed to serve on specific committees.
 - (2) Category two. Category two faculty members are full- and part-time faculty members employed by the university who are appointed by the associate provost research services and graduate studies upon recommendation of the chair of the department and dean of the college based on evidence of scholarship and professional development. Graduate faculty may be approved with a master's degree plus three years of significant and relevant professional experience in lieu of a terminal degree.
 - (a) All category two faculty may teach and supervise master's level graduate work and serve as a member of master's thesis committees.
 - (b) Full-time category two faculty may participate fully in activities of graduate studies committees and may vote in graduate faculty meetings.
 - (c) Part-time category two faculty do not have the full rights and committee privileges but may be appointed to serve on specific committees.
 - (3) Category three. Category three members are not employed by the university and their academic entitlements are determined by the associate provost research services and graduate studies in consultation with the graduate council.
- (C) Parameters.
- (1) The graduate council is the representative governance unit for the graduate faculty and graduate studies.

- (2) Criteria and internal college procedures for appointment to the graduate faculty are recommended by the individual colleges and approved by the graduate council.
- (3) The graduate faculty recommends and maintains standards for graduate admissions, courses, programs, and degrees, plus rules and procedures to give uniformity to the quality of graduate instruction throughout the university. It shall make recommendations concerning curricular activities required for graduate degrees and make suggestions to the departments concerning courses for graduate credit. It shall encourage the development and improvement of graduate work and research.
- (4) Graduate council policies and procedures are found in the “Graduate Studies Academic Policy Book.”