

Religion Department Tenure Expectations

Approved by Advisory Committee January 23, 2015

The Department of Religion expects that a candidate for tenure should present a fully completed book manuscript of high quality and original scholarship which ought to have been published or unconditionally accepted for publication at the time the candidate submits materials for the tenure review.

The Department also expects tenure track faculty to establish a record of scholarship, through published articles in high-quality refereed journals, edited volumes, or peer-reviewed on-line journals, and presentations at conferences and meetings, at the same time as they bring their major research project to completion.

In addition, the Department expects that the candidate for tenure be able to demonstrate progress on a second major project. This may take the form of grant proposals, lectures, presentations at conferences and meetings, articles that have been accepted or published, a book prospectus, and/or written works in progress that can be reviewed by academic peers.

A candidate who would like to propose that a non-traditional scholarly project stand in for one of the listed forms of scholarship should petition the tenured members of the department before embarking on such a project. We recommend that the candidate be in regular communication with his or her mentor regarding the pace, quantity, and quality of publications.

The Department expects the candidate's teaching evaluations to demonstrate commitment to and excellence in teaching. The candidate's teaching evaluations should show strong evidence of effective teaching both in terms of quantitative ratings and remarks in the narrative section indicating that students have learned from and appreciated the candidate's courses and teaching. The candidate should also show an effort to address any significant student concerns, should there be any.

The Department also expects the candidate for tenure to have demonstrated her or his interest in fulfilling the duties incumbent upon faculty members. Specifically, the Department expects the candidate for tenure to have participated actively in Departmental business and the intellectual community of the University. The Department also recognizes service at the University level and to the profession, intellectual and service contributions to Programs within the University as well as beyond the academy, and service in the community as valuable contributions in this category of evaluation.

All candidates should consult the Faculty Handbook for policies and procedures bearing on tenure and promotion decisions.

Religion Department Expectations for Promotion to Full Professor

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The Department of Religion expects that a candidate for promotion to full professor should have completed, subsequent to receiving tenure, either (a) a finalized book manuscript of high quality and original scholarship or (b) five peer-reviewed articles of depth and excellence that are in refereed published journals, refereed on-line journals, and/or refereed edited collections. All these materials ought to have been published or unconditionally accepted for publication at the time that the candidate submits materials for the promotion review.

A candidate who would like to propose that a non-traditional scholarly project stand in for one of the listed forms of scholarship should petition the members of the department who are full professors before embarking on such a project.

The Department expects the candidate's teaching evaluations to demonstrate at least the same level of commitment to and excellence in teaching as they did at the time the candidate stood for tenure. This should be apparent in both the evaluations' narrative and scored components.

The Department also expects the candidate for promotion to have demonstrated her or his success in fulfilling the duties incumbent upon faculty members of the Department and University. Post-tenure, candidates are expected to show an increase in the form of greater service to the department, University, and the candidate's field of study. This might include chairing the Department, serving on University committees, holding leadership positions in professional societies, serving on editorial boards or grant review panels, or other professional activities that benefit colleagues at Wesleyan and the candidate's field.

All candidates should consult the Faculty Handbook for policies and procedures bearing on tenure and promotion decisions.

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