Quick Reference for Teaching Track Career Path
(full description of ranks and promotion criteria)

Teaching Assistant Professors (formerly Lecturers)
Contract length is 3 years (submit dossier for renewal the fall before the contract ends).
Promotion is based on sustained excellent teaching. Faculty are typically up for promotion with the second renewal.
Planning ahead: The faculty member will need at least two peer evaluations of teaching for the promotion dossier.
Early promotion is possible if the faculty member is hired with years of teaching experience that equate to what they would do as a Teaching Assistant Professor.

Early Promotion Example 1: A faculty member is hired as a Teaching Assistant Professor after serving three years as a VL so we ask for promotion at the time of their first renewal. Example 2: A faculty member is hired as a Teaching Assistant Professor after part-time teaching that equates to 3 or 4 years full-time so we ask for promotion at the time of their first renewal.

(full handbook; promotion and renewal guide)

Teaching Associate Professors (formerly Lecturer IIs)
Contract length is 3 years indefinitely renewable (submit dossier for renewal the fall before the contract ends).
Promotion is based on a case in which one has a “clearly defined role” that goes “beyond classroom teaching.” (See criteria in checklist) This can come in the form of mentoring, advising, community engagement, collaboration in creating a certificate/minor/major, working with other units across the university on various projects, and more. Consult mentors for examples.
Tip: Start articulating the case for promotion in YERs for feedback and guidance.
Planning ahead: The faculty member will need at least two peer evaluations of teaching for the promotion dossier as well as the names of three people outside the English Department who can attest to their contributions beyond the department. The Department will solicit letters from the external referees.
Early promotion in as few as 3 years; no hard timetable, depends on projects

Early promotion Example A faculty member is promoted to TAssocP having taught in a specific content area regularly. They become director of a program or certificate in that area and use that platform to build connections and collaborations across the university, strengthening the department’s outreach.

Teaching Professors (formerly Senior Lecturers)
Contract length is 5 years, indefinitely renewable (submit dossier for renewal the fall before the contract ends).
Career Path: While promotion is no longer possible, opportunities for leadership and new projects are. Many TPs are advisors, DUGS, directors of programs or units. TPs are important mentors, vital to conversations about teaching, and central in planning their own paths. This site has resources for career development, administrative openings, and more across the DSAS and university for those who wish to pursue them.