

# Quick Reference for Teaching Track Career Path

(full description of [ranks and promotion criteria](#))

## Teaching Assistant Professors (formerly Lecturers)

**Contract length:** Appointment is typically for a 3-year contract period and is renewable for additional 3-year contract periods based upon demonstrated effectiveness as a teacher (submit dossier for renewal the fall before the contract ends).

**Promotion:** Faculty may be eligible for promotion to Teaching Associate Professor after completing 5 years of full-time service and demonstrating sustained excellent teaching.

**Planning ahead:** The faculty member will need at least two peer evaluations of teaching for the promotion dossier.

**Early promotion:** Faculty may be considered for early promotion at the discretion of the chair, in consultation with the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, before completing 5 years of full-time service as a Teaching Assistant Professor if the faculty member is hired with prior years of full-time teaching experience that equate to what they would do as a TAsstP.

**Early Promotion Example** 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, assuming great teaching.

([full handbook](#); [promotion and renewal guide](#))

## Teaching Associate Professors (formerly Lecturer IIs)

**Contract length:** Renewable for additional 3-year contract periods based upon demonstrated effectiveness as a teacher.

**Promotion:** Faculty may be eligible for promotion to Teaching Professor after 5 years of full-time service as TassocP, requires work “beyond the department” (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 chair, assistant chair, and 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:** Faculty may be considered for early promotion to Teaching Professor before completing 5 years of full-time service as a Teaching Associate Professor. This is very rare and is generally limited to recommendations that are within one year of the normal cycle; similar consultation between chair and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs.

**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:** Appointment is for a 5-year period and is 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 Assistant Deans, 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. Consult with the chair and assistant chair for ideas.