Senior Lecturer Position Description

Candidates for appointment to the position of Senior Lecturer must have established a record of collegiate-level teaching excellence and service over the course of five years of instruction as a Lecturer (or similar appointment at another institution). Additionally, candidates shall exhibit promise in developing additional skills in the areas of research, mentoring, or program development. All candidates should have background and experience in fields relevant to the current academic offerings of the department. Masters-level or higher graduate degree preferred.

Senior Lecturer appointments can be 25%, 50%, 75%, or 100% of full-time equivalence. This rank does not carry tenure. Appointments at this rank are typically for up to five years and are renewable. Senior Lecturers are eligible for future merit and COLA pay adjustments during the term of their contract (subject to the availability of funds).

Senior Lecturer Appointment Process

Calls for promotion or appointment to Senior Lecturer positions will be subject to the availability of funds. When a call has been made, eligible candidates for appointment or promotion to Senior Lecturer will be able to demonstrate the following:

- The equivalent of 5+ years of full-time teaching experience (40+ 3-credit equivalent courses).
- Teaching excellence, as evidenced by exemplary pedagogical materials, student assessments, and teaching observations.
- Evidence of consistent engagement in program-related professional development and/or service activities.

The following materials are required to apply for appointment or promotion to the rank of Senior Lecturer:


2. Personal statement addressed to members of the promotion committee that highlights the candidate’s primary teaching and service contributions, including years of service, as well as efforts aimed at professional development and growth. The candidate’s statement should discuss his or her pedagogical and service work, and it should explain how this work illustrates both the qualities of teaching excellence and investment in the writing program.

3. List of courses taught (form posted annually by Business Office).

4. Current CV or resume.

5. Teaching portfolio that presents evidence of exemplary instruction. The teaching portfolio should be selective, not comprehensive, and therefore should be kept to 35 or fewer pages. The portfolio may include the following types of materials:
   a. Statement of teaching philosophy that both reflects on past teaching practices and goals and also explains efforts to improve and innovate teaching.
   b. Selected syllabi that show the candidate’s particular approach to one or more courses and to helping students achieve the learning outcomes for the course.
c. Innovative assignments or student activities.

d. Selected student papers with instructor commentary.

e. Summary of student evaluations and/or letters from students within the past five academic years. Candidates need not include every evaluation from every course taught at the University of Maryland over the past five years, as the review committee will have access to those university course evaluation documents. Instead, candidates could create a representative summary of teaching evaluations that includes materials such as a table highlighting evaluation scores across all courses and sections, selected student comments that showcase key dimensions of the candidate’s teaching, a peer summary of the candidate’s teaching evaluations, and/or the candidate’s critical self-reflection on his or her own teaching evaluations.

f. Teaching observations conducted within the past five academic years (peer observations are welcome).

g. Evidence of professional development and ongoing professional growth, such as a self-reflective statement describing and analyzing the candidate’s attendance at or participation in workshops, conferences, and/or Center for Teaching Excellence activities.

Senior Lecturer Selection Process

Completed applications for appointment or promotion to Senior Lecturer positions will be reviewed by a committee that includes the Director of Academic Writing, the Director of Professional Writing, and the Associate Chair of the English Department. This committee will read all applications and advise the Department Chair regarding candidates for appointment or promotion to available Senior Lecturer positions. Final recommendations are subject to approval by the department chair, dean, provost, president, and/or their designees, and are not guaranteed.