Career NTTF Professional Responsibilities Policy
Latin American Studies Program

I. Preamble

All non-tenure track faculty (NTTF) connected to the Latin American Studies Program are vital to the success of the program as well as to that of the larger University. This document covers the workload expectations for these positions which might include: teaching, administration, oversight of undergraduate curricula, or participation in university governance. The Program realizes that many NTTF also perform advising and encouragement of our students’ intellectual activity outside of class, thereby enhancing both the quantity and quality of the education we provide. While our program does not currently have any career NTTFs, this document provides policies for such a circumstance. It is meant to make all contributions by career NTTF apparent and to describe how they fit into a standard workload.

II. Workload Expectations for Career NTTF

A. Proportions of 1.0 FTE expected for teaching and other activities

Career NTTF whose primary responsibility is instruction are expected to devote 90% of their effort to teaching and 10% to service, scholarship, and professional development. Modifications of these percentages for special work assignments and special types of NTTF positions are described below.

B. Teaching

1. Standard course load for NTTF whose primary responsibility is teaching

The standard course load in the program is 9 courses per year. A Career NTTF may teach a wide range of courses, at all levels of our undergraduate curriculum and of all sizes, from smaller to larger enrollment courses.

2. What is included in teaching activity

Career NTTF are expected to advise and mentor students who take their courses insofar as this is considered a normal part of teaching any course. They should hold regular office hours during the terms in which they teach and make themselves reasonably available to students via email and/or other appropriate online media. It is expected that no less than 2 hours of office hours per week will be offered.
Career NTTF are also expected to revise their courses as needed to incorporate advances in academic content and pedagogy, and to ensure that they continue to promote the learning outcomes of the program (including General Education) of which they are a part.

C. Service, scholarship, and professional development

Career NTTF are expected to devote 10% of their effort (prorated for part-time appointments) to service, scholarship, and professional development. Service activities may include department/program committees on which NTTF participate (as delineated in the unit’s governance document), college and university service, formal advising and mentoring, professional development, scholarship, and community service relevant to the position. Service assignments within the program are at the discretion of the director or her or his designee in consultation with the Career NTTF.

D. Advising and student contact

Routine advising of, and contact with, students taking their courses is considered a normal part of career NTTF members’ teaching activities as described above in section B. Small, voluntary, and/or irregular advising assignments (such as occasional supervision of undergraduate theses or a small caseload of undergraduate major advisees) count toward service expectations in section C. Large regular advising assignments, such as serving as director or co-director of undergraduate studies are examples of major administrative work, which is discussed in section E below.

E. Major administrative work

This work is distinguished from other tasks above by its duration and level of responsibility. It includes activities such as oversight of academic programs, assignment as professional academic or career advisors, and other major administrative responsibilities. Approval of more than one course release for an individual requires prior consultation with the Dean or her/his designee. When such administrative positions exist for an NTTF, an addendum to this policy will describe the program's existing major administrative tasks assigned to NTTF faculty and their associated course release and/or stipend.

F. Equity and inclusion

Career NTTF are expected to contribute to the University's goals regarding equity and inclusion. These contributions may consist of teaching, service, or scholarly activities as appropriate, as well as involvement with academic and professional associations, non-profit, governmental, and/or private sector organizations.
III. Teaching and Service Assignment Process for NTTF

A. Teaching and service within the program

Except as otherwise determined by the Provost, Dean, or other designee, the Program Director (or the Program Director’s designee) shall be responsible for the scheduling and assignment of all career NTTF members’ professional responsibilities. These assignments are made with consideration given both to instructor preferences, program needs, and the relative expertise of eligible instructors, recognizing that difficult choices must be made when these considerations conflict.

A career NTTF member shall be afforded the opportunity to meet with his or her Program Director before the year’s responsibilities are assigned to discuss anticipated resource needs as well as his or her preferences regarding assignments for teaching, service, and other professional responsibilities. The Provost or designee may modify scheduled assignments, provided that the Program Director discusses changes with the career NTTF member before they are made and that changes are not made for arbitrary or capricious reasons.

Faculty members may request to adjust schedules or assignments.

Assignment of professional responsibilities shall reflect a realistic balance of duties consistent with the criteria for review.

B. Special teaching or service within the department

Separately from any course releases that may be associated with major administrative positions, a course release may be offered to a career NTTF to perform a specific teaching- or service-related assignment for the department or program, so long as the unit can still meet its instructional needs with existing resources. Approval is at the discretion of the unit head in consultation, as applicable, with other officers or committees charged with course planning. Occasions for course release at the discretion of the unit head include the following:

- An unusually heavy workload relative to the departmental norm
- A special professional development opportunity related to the faculty member’s instructional duties or position description
- A special teaching or service opportunity that benefits the department, college, or university

In units with more than one career NTTF, discretionary course releases may not be used to reduce the course load for all career NTTF in the unit without the approval of the Dean or Dean’s designee. Likewise, discretionary course releases may not be used to reduce the course load for an individual on a multi-year basis without the approval of the Dean or
Dean’s designee. Approval of more than one such release for an individual requires prior consultation with the Dean or the Dean’s designee.

C. Teaching and service outside the department

A career NTTF member may be offered a course release(s) from the home program, with or without a stipend, to teach a course(s) in another department or program, or to perform administrative service outside the home program. Approval of such assignments is at the discretion of the Provost, Dean, or other designee, acting in consultation with the heads or directors of both the home and the host departments or program.

D. Course release for grants and fellowships

A career NTTF who has received, or is supported by, an internal or external grant or fellowship may be released from teaching one or more courses, so long as (a) sufficient course buyout funds are available from the grant or fellowship and/or other approved sources to fund the replacement of the instruction that would be lost as a result of such release(s), and (b) such release(s) from teaching would not, in the judgment of the Program Director, unduly compromise the program’s ability to meet the curricular and enrollment needs served by the career NTTF member’s course(s) in either its own or other academic programs. The applicable course buyout rates and guidelines on replacement instruction are those set forth in the College and/or University policies in effect on the date the teaching release(s) is first approved.

The allotment of stipends will be consistent with university policy.

E. Overload assignments

An overload assignment is one that represents a net increase in a career NTTF member’s regular assignment and FTE status. This may come about from (1) an assignment that is in addition to the career NTTF member’s regular assignment and FTE status; (2) a one time or limited assignment, made or approved by the Provost or designee, that is in addition to or different from regular or usual assignments for the member’s classification/rank and not fully offset by a reduction in the career NTTF member’s regular assignment; or (3) assignments unrelated to the bargaining unit member’s primary job responsibilities that are not fully offset by a reduction in the career NTTF member’s regular assignment.

Except as otherwise indicated in the June 10, 2014 Memorandum of Understanding regarding overload assignments, or in successor agreements, overload appointments will be assigned an FTE percentage commensurate with normal workload duties and compensated accordingly. Career NTTF may request that overload compensation take the form of class release. No career NTTF member may be disciplined or terminated for refusing an overload assignment. Appointments for which compensation is paid, in whole or in part, with federal funds may be ineligible for overload compensation.
F. Course cancellation policy

If a teaching assignment is cancelled for any reason, the Program Director will consult with the faculty member and assign alternative duties at the same FTE in the same term, or reassign the affected faculty member to an appropriate course, or alternative assignment, in the same academic year.