10. Promotion and Tenure Standards

The Department of History is committed to maintaining and enhancing its distinction in scholarship, teaching, and service. The department’s mission is to promote the advancement and dissemination of knowledge, not only for the educational benefit of students and faculty at Arizona State University but also for a national and international audience of teachers, scholars, and students in the discipline of history. The department recognizes that research and teaching are closely intertwined and considers excellence in these areas to be in accord with a faculty member’s service to the college, the university, and the community. The Department expects that each of its members will be productive in the areas of research, teaching, and service, albeit perhaps more so in one of these areas than in another at different times.

Aspiring to excellence, the Department also recognizes that the measurements of excellence are difficult to ascertain in the discipline of history, given its remarkable diversity. The discipline is no longer a unified academic field, but a cluster of many sub-fields, each with its own distinctive methodology. Because the Department is composed of scholars with very different training and research agendas, the Department has very detailed assessment procedures for promotion and tenure (# 11) that assure candidates will be adequately evaluated by specialists in their respective fields.

A. Promotion to Associate Professor (with Tenure)

Each candidate for promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure will be judged in three categories: Research, Teaching, and Service. To be recommended for tenure, the candidate must present an overall record of excellence in research and teaching and provide evidence of satisfactory achievement in service.

1. Research

   a. Promotion to this rank requires that the candidate furnish a body of work judged meritorious by the department and historians outside the university. The principal criterion for promotion to Associate Professor (with tenure) is a demonstrated ability to do original, independent research of high quality, resulting in appropriate publications. Ordinarily this will be demonstrated through the publication or acceptance for publication of one scholarly book-length monograph plus two articles or book chapters in refereed journals/books and/or editing-translated works meeting above standards. The term “monograph” as used here is defined as a book of the original scholarship based on primary sources that makes a significant contribution to the field. The candidate must also provide an overview of a continuing research agenda, including evidence of progress made to date. Publications previous to employment in the department count toward meeting these criteria. The monograph can be based on research done for the dissertation.
b. Like other faculty, public historians should publish a book with an appropriate publisher. The book may be related to public historical work or it may be a scholarly monograph on a topic that impinges on public history. The evidence of excellence in this field is also to be demonstrated in the publication of two refereed articles or book chapters in the field of public history, or in equivalent publications/works in public history.

2. Teaching

a. In a public university the ability to educate undergraduates is crucial to the mission of the university. A candidate for promotion for Associate Professor must demonstrate good teaching skills and rapport with undergraduate students. The assessment of the candidate’s teaching ability will be drawn from no fewer than six reports gathered during the probationary period from the department’s tenured members as well as student evaluations. Student teaching evaluations and other appropriate measurements must be at least within department norms. Candidates are expected to play an active role in undergraduate education and to be involved with introductory survey level courses. Candidates might not immediately become involved in the graduate program but should become active participants (if opportunities present themselves) by the time of review.

b. Public historians will primarily but not exclusively teach graduate students and must be able to develop class projects and to arrange individual internships. In addition they will be evaluated on their ability to recruit and advise students, place and monitor interns, and administrate the Public History Program.

3. Service:

Assistant professors need have only limited involvement in committee work on the departmental, collegial, and university levels. Participation in appropriate professional organizations is strongly encouraged. The same applies to public historians whose contribution to the profession will be evaluated on the basis of active involvement with appropriate public organizations.

B. Promotion to Professor

Each candidate for promotion to Professor will be judged in three categories: Research, Teaching, and Service. To be recommended for promotion, the candidate must present an overall record of excellence in research and teaching and provide evidence of significant professional service.

1. Research
a. A candidate for Professor must demonstrate national or international recognition for scholarship and leadership in his/her field. Ordinarily the requirements for promotion to Professor will include a monograph published since tenure (see above for the definition of “monograph” in this document) plus concrete evidence of other scholarly productivity appropriate of a senior scholar such as refereed articles, chapters, or edited works and textbooks produced since tenure. Grants, fellowships, and contracts are further indicators of national standing. The candidate must also present a clear research agenda for the next five years, providing evidence of progress to date.

b. Public historians will be expected to complete a major research publication and continue research activities leading to articles, contracts, and other public history works.

2. Teaching

a. A candidate for promotion to Professor must demonstrate continuing excellence in teaching and is expected to participate in the training of graduate students, broadly defined, if opportunities present themselves. The candidate’s statement of teaching philosophy and practice should emphasize the development of the candidate’s teaching since being awarded tenure and address an agenda for future development.

b. Public historians will also be evaluated on their ability to recruit and advise students, place and monitor interns, and administer the Public History Program.

3. Service

Candidates for Professor should play a significant role on department, college, and university committees. Candidates should provide evidence of significant participation in professional organizations at regional and national levels, e.g., service on committees, and so on.