

# Qualification requirements for promotion to Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences

## Rules and regulations

UiO's rules for promotion of professors and the rules that describe the qualifications for professor specify the minimum requirements for becoming a professor. This is a framework for assessing professorial competence. The faculties can specify further specified criteria as a basis for assessment relating to position or promotion.

### General

According to the [Regulations concerning appointment and promotion to teaching and research posts](#) § 1-2 the requirements can be divided into two main sections:

1. Academic level conforming to established international or national standards
2. Extensive artistic activities... (not relevant at our Faculty)
3. Documented competence in relevant educational theory and practice based on training or in teaching and supervision.

The University of Oslo has specified further criteria as basis for assessment of educational competence.

The Faculty of Social Sciences has specified further criteria as basis for assessment of academic competence. These requirements should also be met when assessing applicants to posts as Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences.

### Educational competence and additional requirements for professorships

- [Rules for appointment to Professor and Associate Professor position at UiO:](#) Section 9, d) and e)
- [Rules for practising the requirement for basic university pedagogical competence at UiO:](#) Section 1.1

### Academic competence

Assessment for promotion "*shall be conducted on the basis of documented academic ... competence*" (Regulations, Section 2-2, Part (5)). The number of pieces of work that may be submitted for assessment is limited to 15.

In order to qualify as a professor, the applicant's research shall be of high quality and show both breadth and depth. The applicant must have remained active and produced output also over the most recent 5-year period.

Field Code Changed

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The following requirements should be met:

1. *Quantity*: The applicant's quantity of output must be judged in relation to international traditions within the discipline and on the basis of the substance of the work and the effort it represents. As a general rule, the quantity should correspond to three doctoral dissertations. This normally means at least 12 full-length journal articles or three books or combinations thereof. The applicant must have contributed substantially to all publications included in the application for promotion, in accordance with general scientific principles and traditions within the subject area. In disciplines that practice first authorship, the applicant must have been first author of at least eight articles. In disciplines that do not practice first authorship, when weighted by number of authors the number of articles should as a general rule sum to at least six, the number of books to two. In cases of very high quality, promotion may be awarded on the basis of less output than this, however only in exceptional circumstances may the required output correspond to less than two thirds of the numbers stated above.

When assessing the quantity of output, only output published, or accepted for publication, by well-respected international outlets with high impact in the relevant research community, or other outlets of a similar status, should be taken into account. Output in national outlets may be taken into account when their quality and impact correspond to that of the above-mentioned international outlets. Only in rare circumstances, and then due to the unusually high quality of the work in question, should publications in marginal outlets or unpublished work be taken into account.

2. *Quality*: Quality should be measured by the extent to which the work has contributed to, or may contribute to, the development of the discipline or practice within the field. Emphasis should also be put on originality of approach and formulation of problems, method and data sources. A significant part of the work submitted for assessment should have been published, or accepted for publication, in excellent journals/publishers (e.g. level 2 journals/publishers, as defined by the Norwegian Publication Indicator, or in outlets of similar quality), or be judged to hold an academic standard similar to typical articles/work published in such outlets.

3. *Scope*: The applicant should be qualified for teaching and supervision at an advanced level within more than one speciality. The scientific output should comprise at least three different classes of problems, themes or research methods. The applicant must have shown ability to position their own work within a wider context.
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4. *Independence and cooperation*: The applicant must have proved that s/he can perform all central parts of a research task alone and with high quality. This can be documented for example through work where the applicant is the sole author, through declarations from co-authors, or through experience from project

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management. In addition, credit shall be given to research cooperation.

5. *Currentness*: The output should be related to the research frontier of the discipline at the time of publication. Some of the submitted output should have been produced in the last five years.
6. *Visibility*: The applicant should have established a certain visibility within the international academic community. Measures of such visibility include citations, refereeing for top journals, invitations to give seminars at good universities, invitations as keynote speaker at seminars and conferences and membership of editorial boards of well-respected journals.

To qualify for promotion, the competence must be within the discipline in which the applicant is employed. Work within other disciplines should be considered and taken into account when it is relevant for performing research and teaching within the relevant discipline.

The committee is expected to assess the six requirements explicitly.

### **Reporting**

When a committee submits a declaration of competence, it shall always indicate the subject area and, if appropriate, the specialization in which the applicant is deemed to have professorial competence. The statement shall always state whether the declaration of competence is unanimous and indisputable. The latter implies that the committee does not need to undertake a thorough and detailed assessment of candidates that clearly either are, or are not, qualified. It is only when the conclusion is not immediately obvious that the committee needs to undertake a more thorough and detailed assessment and justify their conclusion accordingly.

While the committee is expected to consider all relevant criteria, the committee does not have to spell out all of their considerations in detail. In particular, it is not necessary to report on the content and quality of individual publications; only when the quality deviates from what would be expected given the outlet in which the output is, or will be, published, and this impacts on the overall conclusion with respect to the candidate's qualifications, should a detailed account of an article be reported.