



FLETCHER TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Policy # 1.006

CREDENTIALS POLICY

Authority: Academic Affairs

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PURPOSE:

Fletcher recruits and appoints the best-qualified faculty available. All full-time and part-time faculty members must have appropriate credentials and competencies that demonstrate they are qualified to teach. Oral and written competencies will be demonstrated during the recruitment and selection process. The search process is intended to recruit and select faculty whose highest degree is earned from a broad representation of accredited institutions.

POLICY:

The College will hire only faculty who meet or exceed the minimum credentialing qualifications as stated in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges Principles of Accreditation.

Credentials

- Faculty teaching general education courses in the humanities/fine arts, mathematics, social/behavioral sciences, physical sciences and natural sciences must hold the minimum of a master's degree from an accredited institution with a major in the teaching discipline or have completed at least 18 graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline.
- Faculty teaching credit courses in professional, occupational, and technical areas that are components of associate degree programs that result in transferable coursework to a senior institution must possess a minimum of a master's degree from an accredited institution with a major in the teaching discipline, or have completed at least 18 graduate semester hours in the teaching discipline and have appropriate work experience.
- Faculty teaching credit courses in professional, occupational, and technical areas that are components of associate degree programs not usually resulting in college transfer, or in the continuation of students at a senior institution, must possess appropriate academic preparation or academic preparation coupled with work experience. The typical combination is a bachelor or associate's degree with appropriate work experience. The minimum academic degree for faculty teaching in professional, occupational and technical areas must be at the same level at which the faculty member is teaching or, on documented exception, a minimum of 10 years professional experience at the level at or above the highest skill level of teaching.
- Non-degree diploma or certificate occupational courses are typically taught by faculty members with some college or specialized training but with an emphasis on competence gained through work


experience. Some courses may require faculty with an associate's degree or beyond with little or no work experience. Others may require little formal education beyond high school. While the competency requirements may vary, it is the responsibility of the VCAA to fully define competency requirements prior to the initiation of the recruitment and selection process.

- Faculty members who teach developmental courses must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in a discipline (or with a concentration in the discipline) related to their teaching assignment and either classroom experience in a discipline related to their special proficiency or training in developmental education.

Note: In exceptional cases, outstanding professional experience and demonstrated contributions to the teaching discipline may be accepted in lieu of formal academic preparation. Any such exception will be justified and documented fully on an individual basis by the VCAA.

Distribution via the College's Website located in the 2021-2022 Faculty Handbook

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[Kristine Strickland \(May 3, 2021 12:41 CDT\)](#)

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Chancellor

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Date