

The Department of Asian Studies, St. Olaf College
Statement on Significant Scholarly and Artistic Work
2016

Significant scholarly and artistic activity in Asian Studies includes disciplinary and interdisciplinary research, applied scholarship, community-based projects with a scholarly or artistic component, and the scholarship of teaching and learning, as well as the dissemination of this work subject to peer review or juried selection. The Department takes an expansive view of what constitutes such work, acknowledges that the field Asian Studies is interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary, and draws upon a wide variety of methodologies and approaches. The department regards this diversity as a reflection of strength and vitality. The faculty member's ongoing research may be carried out individually, through mentored projects with undergraduate students, or in collaboration with other faculty members or community partners. The department does not require all members to participate in all of these activities, and recognizes that, over the course of a career, the proportion of activity across types of scholarly and artistic work may vary. The order of the types of scholarly and artistic work, and dissemination of that work, generally reflects decreasing significance, though in some cases adjacent examples may carry equal significance. Similar considerations determine the assignment of the significance of undergraduate research projects mentored by the faculty member.

Types of scholarly and artistic work

1. Engagement in significant scholarly or artistic activity

- Conducting scholarly research, including mentored undergraduate projects, related to the faculty member's ongoing research.
- Submitting written work for publication.
- Creating new digital scholarly assets.
- Acquiring grants and fellowships in support of scholarly research and projects.
- Giving presentations at conferences in the form of a poster session or participating as a panelist, moderator, or discussant.
- Applying for grants and fellowships in support of scholarly research and projects.
- Performing editorial work and/or peer reviewing for journals, edited volumes, conferences, electronic discussion lists, or other emerging forums.
- Giving invited lectures to scholarly or public audiences.
- Reviewing scholarly books.
- Consulting on textbooks or electronic information systems.

2. Dissemination of scholarly and artistic work

- Peer-reviewed scholarly books, monographs, translations, edited works, and annotated bibliographies.
- Scholarly articles published in peer-reviewed journals.
- Book chapters in edited volumes.
- Scholarly essays in exhibition catalogs.
- Publicly disseminated proceedings from a workshop, seminar, or conference.
- Review essays and book reviews.
- Peer-reviewed electronically disseminated scholarly publications, archives, blogs, etc.
- Research-based reports or other scholarly papers produced for a public agency, or non-governmental organization.
- Textbooks and other materials created to share scholarly knowledge with a general audience.

Determination of significance

Both department members and external evaluators representing the wider academic community will be asked to assess levels of significance based upon criteria of quality, substance and scope. The reputation or influence of supporting agencies and organizations (e.g., publishers, journals, public agencies) will be an important consideration.

In most cases peer-reviewed work has greater weight than work that is not subject to peer review or juried selection. Quality is more important than quantity, and completed work is valued more than work in progress. Scholarly publications and presentations are valued more than works of popularization or presentations to general audiences. Scholarly and artistic activity in international and national venues is usually more significant than activity carried out in regional and local venues. The department recognizes, however, that in some highly specialized or emerging fields, regional and local conferences and organizations may be more active and professionally recognized.

Grants, honors, and other awards offer another measure of faculty members' scholarly and artistic contributions to the field. The department values recognition from external organizations over awards presented by the college; peer-reviewed awards over those that are not peer reviewed; and awards from international or national organizations and foundations over those from regional or local organizations.

The expectations described below are intended to serve as general indicators of the quantity and quality of scholarly and artistic activity and dissemination appropriate to each rank.

Expectations for accomplishment

1. Assistant Professor at the Comprehensive Review preceding the tenure review (typically in the fourth year of the probationary period). *Examples of scholarly and artistic activity expected at the time of the comprehensive review:*

- Peer-reviewed publications, in print or digital format, including those nearing completion, and evidence of being a published scholar.
- Papers or posters presented at regional or national conferences.
- Reviews of exhibitions or scholarly books in authoritative periodical, electronic, or newspaper sources.
- Mentored undergraduate research projects related to the faculty member's ongoing research.
- Invited articles, book chapters, or lectures for scholarly audiences.
- Successful applications for peer-reviewed external and internal grants for the support of research, curriculum development, the creation of an exhibition or a scholarly or artistic project.
- Applications for peer-reviewed external and internal grants for the support of research, curriculum development, the creation of an exhibition, or a scholarly or artistic project.

2. Tenure Review and Promotion to the rank of Associate Professor. *Examples of scholarly and artistic activity expected for tenure and the promotion to the rank of Associate Professor:*

- Continued development of a scholarly research program, reflected in a record of peer-reviewed publications, in print or digital format. By this point, the faculty member should typically have published or accepted for publication a peer-reviewed book, chapters in peer-reviewed edited volumes, or two peer-reviewed articles in major scholarly journals.

The department also expects to see other scholarly activity such as:

- Mentoring undergraduate research projects related to the faculty member's ongoing research.
- Presenting papers or posters at national or international conferences.
- Organizing a scholarly and/or pedagogical workshop/seminar/conference with publicly disseminated scholarship in association with the event.
- Completing a significant scholarly digital project.

- Securing funding from external funding sources to support research, curriculum development, the creation of an exhibition, or a scholarly or artistic project.

3. Promotion to the rank of Professor. *Examples of scholarly and artistic activity expected for the promotion to the rank of Professor:*

- Continued record of peer-reviewed publications. By this point, the faculty member should have a published book or additional peer-reviewed articles published in major scholarly journals, or have completed additional significant peer-reviewed scholarly digital projects.

The successful candidate will also have engaged in one or more of the following scholarly or artistic activities:

- Giving invited lectures as well as juried conference papers and posters at national and international venues.
- Mentoring undergraduate research projects related to the faculty member's ongoing research.
- Securing of funding from external funding sources to support research, curriculum development, or a significant scholarly digital project.
- Maintaining digital projects and online resources.
- Performing formal external reviews of programs, departments, organizations, or manuscripts.