

## **Teaching Loads in the Department of Mathematics**

Approved by the faculty on 20 April 2021

The Department of Mathematics is committed to excellence in teaching, research, and service. Comparisons with peer institutions convey that a standard teaching load of four courses per year for tenure-stream faculty is not competitive. As a result of this insight, the Department stated in its 2021 five-year plan as one of its aspirations:

Reduce teaching loads of research-active faculty to three courses per year in order to remain competitive with our benchmark institutions. In addition to supporting research, teaching reductions are also needed for faculty to devote time to curriculum development/course coordination.

For a number of years, the Department recruited Assistant Professors with a three-course teaching load per year and the option of a fourth-year course release during the probationary period. The Department plans to continue this policy.

Currently, our resources are stretched very thin, and the budget situation of the College of Arts & Sciences indicates that this will remain the case in the near future. A transition period may be needed during which not all deserving faculty can receive a course release.

The Department will distribute course releases for tenured faculty based on the following guidelines:

1. Research-active Associate Professors who received tenure within the preceding eight years are given priority.
2. In order to identify research-active faculty, indications of research activity within the past four years will be considered. These include, for example, publications, research grants, and graduation of doctoral students. Normally, a publication of at least one article in a research journal within the preceding two years is expected.
3. Normally, all tenured faculty are expected to regularly teach large classes.
4. Time effort for extensive curricular development activities and course coordination of Calculus I, II or III for at least four semesters may be balanced with a course release.
5. Normally, no faculty has a teaching load of less than three courses per year, except in special cases such as department officers, modified duties attendant to parenthood, sabbaticals, etc.
6. The chair will consult with the Salary Committee about teaching releases. Among faculty with the same level of priority, the Department will try to distribute teaching releases equitably over multi-year time periods.