



The assessment of academic qualifications of applicants for the title of docent

The University may, upon application, award the title of docent (*dosentti* in Finnish) to a person who fulfills the requirements for the title. Docents may offer courses (1-2 annually) in the faculty, supervise students and examine theses (Master's theses and doctoral dissertations) as well as participate in other University operations as agreed. The position is similar to that of Privatdozent in German-speaking countries. The title is sometimes referred to as an Adjunct Professor.

Requirements:

The requirements for the title are the following:

- a doctoral degree
- scholarly studies of high quality; in quantity, the publications should be equivalent in scope to two doctoral dissertations (both monographs and research articles can be included)
- a comprehensive knowledge of his or her own field
- a capacity for independent research demonstrated through publication or some other manner
- and good teaching skills.

Assessment of academic qualifications

Assessors are requested to assess the applicant's scientific qualifications and other merits, the focus being on the former. The applicant's teaching skills shall be evaluated by a teaching skills assessment committee appointed by the Faculty Council.

In their assessment (ca. 3 pages), assessors are asked to pay attention on the following aspects:

- adequacy of scholarly publications (the recommended length of a doctoral dissertation is 250 pages excluding appendices)
- the scope of the publications, especially with regard to the field of the title
- the academic quality of the submitted publications (and research overall)
- the applicant's scholarly development: does his or her research conducted after the doctoral dissertation contribute to new scholarly knowledge and demonstrate progress as an independent researcher?

The assessors are requested to explicitly indicate in their statements whether they find the applicant academically qualified for the title of docent.

Provisions for disqualification

The Faculty takes into account the provisions for disqualification specified in the Administrative Procedure Act (Act No 434/2003, sections 27-28). Consequently, *persons who have served as supervisors of the applicant's doctoral dissertation or are or have been otherwise engaged in close cooperation with the applicant may not be appointed as assessors of the applicant's academic qualifications.* The provisions for disqualification must be considered before agreeing to serve as an assessor. The assessor must not submit a statement if he or she is disqualified to act as an assessor.