According to the Higher Learning Commission, “Faculty teaching in graduate programs should hold the terminal degree determined by the discipline and have a record of research, scholarship or achievement appropriate for the graduate program.” Several qualifications are considered assets for hire either as an instructional/academic staff or tenure-track faculty member in the Psychology program at the University of Wisconsin – River Falls.

Candidates for graduate faculty status have earned a terminal degree (i.e. earned credential), that is a Doctorate in Psychology or a closely related field (e.g., Neuroscience).

In addition, they have a record of research, scholarship, and achievement that includes

- At least one peer-reviewed conference presentation over a three-year period, or
- A peer-reviewed journal article or text (e.g., book, book chapter) over a five-year period, or
- A relevant research field experience (e.g., summer research fellowship, research sabbatical) over a five-year period.

According to the Higher Learning Commission, “Tested experience may substitute for an earned credential or portions thereof.” For “tested experience” to substitute for the terminal degree, candidates must have one of the following degrees: The Department of Psychology does not wish to consider tested experience substitutions for graduate faculty status in our Psychology program.