Who are NYU contract faculty?

Depending on where we work and what we teach, the NYU administration calls us Lecturers, Language Lecturers, Teachers, Instructors, Clinical Professors, Arts Professors, Industry Professors, Music Professors, Research Professors, or Professors of Practice.

Like tenured professors, we are full-time employees with a wide range of teaching, research, and administrative roles. However, most of us teach more and earn less than our tenured colleagues, and we don't have the security of tenure. Every few years, we have to reapply for our jobs, with no guarantee we'll get to keep them.

We're the fastest-growing faculty group at NYU: in the past two decades, our numbers in CAS have grown by 1000% (37 to 403), while the tenured faculty grew by only 43% (513 to 733). It's easy to see why the NYU administration prefers hiring contract faculty instead of tenured faculty: students can't tell us apart, and we do much of the same work — but contract faculty cost less, teach more, and don't have the job protections that come with tenure or a union contract.

How can students help?

Students can stand with their contract-line professors by **signing our Contract Faculty Pledge**. A majority of contract faculty have said that



Join the

JOIN US in calling on NYU's
President & Trustees to

and start negotiating

they want a union. The

NYU administration could

recognize our union today

right to bargain collectively and agree to a fair process by which to recognize our

tomorrow.

respect our

union —
CONTRACT FACULTY
UNITED - UAW



Why do a majority of NYU contract faculty want a union?

Like workers at Starbucks, Amazon, and thousands of fellow academic workers at NYU, we want a union because working together with our colleagues is the best way we have to improve our working conditions and our lives. Right now, the quality of our jobs depends on unenforceable promises and good will from the NYU administration. We are coming together to bargain collectively for improvements to our wages and job security, and to ensure that our academic freedom and working conditions are guaranteed by a legally-binding contract.

Our working conditions are our students' learning conditions, and our students deserve professors who have stronger protections, academic freedom, and who aren't worried about having to reapply for their own jobs. We also want to join a movement of working people across the country who fight for a better and fairer world. By forming our union, Contract Faculty United - UAW, we're helping to build a movement that fights for immigration reform, reproductive justice, student loan forgiveness, and a fairer, more equal economy and society.

Does this mean you're going on strike?

That depends in large part on the NYU administration. Strikes — the collective withdrawal of labor — are the most powerful weapon workers have. Precisely because strikes are so disruptive, no union ever takes the decision to strike lightly. In the UAW, two-thirds of workers voting in a strike authorization vote must vote yes to authorize a strike.

Since in general workers don't want to go on strike, strikes happen when bosses refuse to negotiate reasonably. Often the very threat of a strike is enough to force an agreement. That's what happened earlier this academic year, when after nearly six months of bargaining and two contract extensions, NYU adjunct faculty with ACT-UAW 7902 voted to authorize a strike. The threat of a strike finally brought the NYU administration back to the table and won our adjunct colleagues a contract that set new standards for part-time faculty nationwide.

Indeed, the basis of American labor law is the observation that it is not workers who cause strikes, but bosses who force strikes by refusing to treat their workers fairly. That's why the policy of the United States government, as written into law in 1935, is to encourage unionization and collective bargaining. The best thing that the NYU administration can do to prevent a strike that would disrupt research and education across campus is to respect our right to collectively bargain and agree to a fair process by which to recognize our union.





