Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

SLO 1: Political science, political processes, and the role of politics
Graduates will have a basic understanding of political science, political processes, and the role of politics in social affairs.

Related Measures

M 1: Capstone course discussion evaluation
Required capstone course will review all areas of political science taught by the faculty, and students will be responsible for leading a discussion of at least one part. Average teaching evaluation and judged assessment of student-lead discussion of 3.5 in capstone course. All students will successfully lead a discussion session in the course that focuses on the understanding and interpretation of scholarly research, which will be assessed by faculty satisfaction with the quality of the student's performance on a 1 to 5 scale, 1 being poor, 3 good, and 5 excellent--ready for graduate school. Fall 2014. The course delivery method was changed in Fall 2014 to on-line. Students were given advanced papers by teaching faculty, and a set of discussion questions that they were to respond to in an on-line forum. The quality of these responses was then evaluation as pass/fail by the relevant faculty member. In light of these changes, the tool has been modified as follows: 80% of all student responses will be pass, with scores summed across weeks.

Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Connected Document
Capstone assessment Fall 2013

Target:
80% of students will score 3 or above on discussion evaluation tool. The course delivery method was changed in Fall 2014 to on-line. Students were given advanced papers by teaching faculty, and a set of discussion questions that they were to respond to in an on-line forum. The quality of these responses was then evaluation as pass/fail by the relevant faculty member. In light of these changes, the tool has been modified as follows: 1. The average number of participations by the entire class will be above 3 per week. 2. Each student will participate on an average of at least three times per week.

Connected Document
Capstone assessment Fall 2013

M 3: Exit survey
The Chair and Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies will review department exit surveys administered to majors by the College of Liberal Arts. 80% of all students should rate the courses as at least satisfactory, 80% should be at least satisfied with the curriculum, and 80% should indicate that they course of study at least adequately prepared them for their careers.

Source of Evidence: Exit interviews with grads/program completers

Connected Document
Exit survey Spring 2013

Target:
The Chair and Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies will review department exit surveys administered to majors by the College of Liberal Arts. 80% of all students should rate the courses as at least satisfactory, 80% should be at least satisfied with the curriculum, and 80% should indicate that they course of study at least adequately prepared them for their careers. The target will be judged as met if at least two of the three measures are met.

Connected Document
Exit survey Spring 2013

SLO 2: Quantitative analysis
Students will demonstrate ability to quantitatively analyze political information.

Related Measures

M 2: Research papers
Jury judged evaluation of blind POLI 2900 research papers. Juried papers from POLI 2900 that demonstrate knowledge of the research process. Rubric: Criteria for Rating 2900 Papers 1. Coherently written, with clear introduction, body, and conclusion 2. Clearly state research question(s)/hypothesis(es) 3. Literature review tied to research question(s) 4. Operationalization of variables 5. Demonstration of hypothesized relationships among three or more variables, using appropriate methodology 6. Clear, correct interpretation and reporting of findings Scoring on Each of the Criteria 2 = Reasonably good 1 = Decent effort; not quite clear on the concept 0 = Not even close

Source of Evidence: Written assignment(s), usually scored by a rubric

Target:
Three criteria will be used. 1. All averages will be above 1 for each dimension of the rubric. 2. Average scores will be at or above 6 out of 12 possible total score. 3. 80% of all students will score a total of six or above. The target will be judged as met if at least two of the three measures are met.

Connected Document
2900 jury assessments fall 2013

SLO 3: Knowledge of politics outside the United States
Graduates will have knowledge of politics outside the United States.
M 1: Capstone course discussion evaluation
Required capstone course will review all areas of political science taught by the faculty, and students will be responsible for leading a discussion of at least one part. Average teaching evaluation and judged assessment of student-led discussion of 3.5 in capstone course. All students will successfully lead a discussion session in the course that focuses on the understanding and interpretation of scholarly research, which will be assessed by faculty satisfaction with the quality of the student's performance on a 1 to 5 scale, 1 being poor, 3 good, and 5 excellent—ready for graduate school. Fall 2014: The course delivery method was changed in Fall 2014 to on-line. Students were given advanced papers by teaching faculty, and a set of discussion questions that they were to respond to in an on-line forum. The quality of these responses was then evaluated as pass/fail by the relevant faculty member. In light of these changes, the tool has been modified as follows: 80% of all student responses will be pass, with scores summed across weeks.
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other

Connected Document
Capstone assessment Fall 2013

Target:
80% of students will score 3 or above on discussion evaluation tool.