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

SLO 1: Research tools and methodology
All Ph.D. graduates will have a demonstrated knowledge of the research tools and methodology necessary to gather political information and analyze it at an advanced level.

Related Measures

M 1: Qualifying exam rubric to be developed
Jury judged Qualifying Examination rubric to be developed
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other
Target: 75% of students pass the Qualifying Exam on first or second attempt.

M 2: Comprehensive written exam rubric to be developed
Comprehensive written examination in major fields. Jury judged comprehensive written examinations in two fields combined with sufficient coursework in the third field. rubric to be developed
Source of Evidence: Comprehensive/end-of-program subject matter exam
Target: 75% of all students pass the comprehensive exams in first or second attempt.

M 3: Dissertation prospectus rubric to be developed
Department dissertation prospectus. Jury judged dissertation prospectus and dissertation of acceptable quality. rubric to be developed
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other
Target: 50% of all students successfully defend a dissertation proposal

M 4: Dissertation of acceptable quality rubric to be developed
Dissertation of acceptable quality. rubric to be developed
Source of Evidence: Senior thesis or culminating major project
Target: 50% of all eligible students successfully defend a dissertation

SLO 2: Understanding of three fields in domestic and/or foreign political processes
All Ph.D. graduates will have an understanding of three fields in domestic and/or foreign political processes and the ability to communicate their findings to academic and other professional audiences.

Related Measures

M 2: Comprehensive written exam rubric to be developed
Comprehensive written examination in major fields. Jury judged comprehensive written examinations in two fields combined with sufficient coursework in the third field. rubric to be developed
Source of Evidence: Comprehensive/end-of-program subject matter exam
Target: 75% of all students pass the comprehensive exams in first or second attempt.

M 3: Dissertation prospectus rubric to be developed
Department dissertation prospectus. Jury judged dissertation prospectus and dissertation of acceptable quality. rubric to be developed
Source of Evidence: Academic direct measure of learning - other
Target: 50% of all students successfully defend a dissertation proposal

SLO 3: Present a professional lecture
All graduates will be able to present a professional lecture on a current research topic.

Related Measures

M 5: Presentation of research papers
Presentation of research papers at professional meetings
Source of Evidence: Presentation, either individual or group
Target: 100% of all students will present a paper at least once during their studies

SLO 4: Trained to teach at the college level
Produce Ph.D. students who are well trained to teach at the college level.

Related Measures
M 7: Observations of GA
Observations of each graduate assistant teaching in the classroom each semester
Source of Evidence: Academic indirect indicator of learning - other

Target:
All teaching assistants will be assessed by the Graduate Coordinator as having adequate teaching skills to be continued in their positions. The assessment rubric includes timeliness and preparedness, student attention, use of instructional technology (PowerPoint, etc), and overall organization and accuracy of information. Unsuccessful teaching will be addressed via remedial instruction by the Undergraduate Coordinator. Any students who fail twice will be dropped from further teaching. Goal: 100 per cent passage by second assessment.

SLO 5: Successful careers
PhD graduates begin successful careers

Related Measures

M 10: Job placement
Post-graduate job placement
Source of Evidence: Job placement data, esp. for career/tech areas

Target:
75% of all PhD graduates will be placed in professional jobs commensurate with the PhD, such as tenure-track faculty positions or professional research positions, within a year of completing the PhD.

SLO 6: Satisfaction
The Department of Political Science will obtain high satisfaction with its Ph.D. program.

Related Measures

M 11: Student survey
Student survey administered by the department every spring semester.
Source of Evidence: Student satisfaction survey at end of the program

Target:
75 percent or more of the students surveyed will rate the department “good” or better in annual survey of graduate students.