

Program Review Comprehensive Report



Program Review - Instructional: Political Science

Supplemental Reports and Attachments

2014 - 2017

Comments or Notes: NCB ENTERED

Attachments:

- [2014_17_POLITICAL_SCIENCE_CurriculumRPT.pdf](#)
- [2014_17_POLITICAL_SCIENCE_SuccessEfficiencyRetentionRPT.pdf](#)
- [2014-17_INSTRUCTION_POLITICAL_SCIENCE_ResourceRequests.xlsx](#)
- [2014-17_POL_SLO_DISCIPLINE.pdf](#)
- [2014-17_POLITICAL_SCIENCE_PLO_INSTRUCTIONAL.pdf](#)

Program Trends and Updates

2014 - 2017

Program Update Section

Has your unit shifted departments in the PAST 4 years?: N/A

Do you anticipate your unit will shift departments in the NEXT 4 years?:

Political Science will remain within the Social and Behavioral Sciences for the upcoming academic years as part of the emerging META major / schools initiative to create more student friendly pathways to transfer and degree completion.

New certificates programs created by your unit in the PAST 4 years?: Yes, Political Science did develop an ADT in 2015 and students now have a clearer pathway to attend the UC campuses.

New certificate programs anticipated by your unit in the NEXT 4 years?: The plan is to increase student knowledge and faculty advising of the ADT. Focus will be on the implementation of the ADT and the established routine of course rotations scheduled in accordance with the ADT. POLS faculty from across the district have been meeting and discussing (and have met with CSUSB), to discuss articulation agreements with the CSU campuses. However, each CSU has their own (and quite different) curriculum requirements and accept different courses for transfer. Much more analysis of each individual program in the CSU level is needed to determine what courses can be altered, created, and offered to allow for easier pathways to the various CSU campuses.

Substantial modifications made to certificates/degrees in the PAST 4 years.: N/A

Substantial modifications anticipated to certificates/degrees in the NEXT 4 years.: N/A

Activities in other units that impacted your unit in the PAST 4 years.: N/A

Activities in other units that impacted your unit in the NEXT 4 years.: N/A

Previous Program Review Resource Requests

Resource Requests Received: The POLS discipline did benefit from the campus wide upgrade to the computer and projector systems in Fall 2017. This has remedied a large obstacle that was faced in fostering the effective use of technology in the classroom.

In February 2015 and June 2016, both of the two full-time faculty members in POLS retired. The Political Science discipline at Norco College is thus currently in a transitional period. In Fall 2016 a full-time replacement hire took place for the first faculty retirement.

How did the resources received impact student learning?: Content on the projector is now clearly visible and the computer systems can now play media resources and no longer crash. Students' and faculty interactions are improved as less time is spent

dealing with malfunctioning equipment. Students are now able to clearly view the content of the screen and can take better notes and retain more information from the class.

The one full-time replacement hire that did take place for the first (of the two full-time) faculty retirements allowed for continuity of course offerings required of our ADT, assessment, and active involvement in campus service.

If you requested resources but did not receive them, how did that impact student learning?: As of the 2016 – 2017 academic year, there is currently only one full-time tenure-track faculty member. The POLS discipline has been impacted by only being able to teach the core courses required by the ADT and cannot offer other courses. It is also a major limitation on the ability to offer new courses, which is highly likely to be required in order for more of our students to have transferable units for the CSU campuses. With the high number of POL 1 sections required for all students, and the current rotation requirements of our UC ADT, it is currently not possible to expand our course offerings. This is an obstacle to the creation and offering of additional classes that would contribute to the guided pathways and number of transferable units to the various CSU schools, which each have different classes that they accept for transfer.

The Political Science discipline has requested and is currently waiting for another line to open for a future replacement hire. It remains a high priority that the discipline moves to become more in line with the 75/25 expectations of Title V.

Hiring another full-time replacement faculty position is also vital to advancing Norco's Education Master Plan and Strategic Goals. For example, POL 1 - American Government must continue to be the discipline's largest course offering because it is required to fulfill the American Institutions requisite for a number of the Associates of Arts degree programs in our district. POL 1 is also a Graduation Requirement in U.S. History, Constitution, and American Ideals for the California State University system, and the American History and American Institutions requirement for the University of California.

In sum, two full-time faculty members are needed in order to ensuring that our current course offerings are consistently staffed and assessed. It is also important for the reliability of course offerings involving our ADT. Moreover, it is vital to the efforts of the POLS discipline to continue to expand in terms of both our majors and our course offerings. This is also a pressing need in order for our discipline to be successful in our efforts to create guided pathways for students transferring to the CSU system. We simply cannot consistently staff courses and expand beyond our existing UC ADT without a second full-time faculty member.

Program Data Highlights Section

COR Review: In examining the COR, the information is current and up to date.

Program Metric Highlights: The POLS discipline currently continues to meet our established metrics.

Assessment Report Highlights: The POLS discipline has made great progress in increasing our assessment of all SLOs in all courses. We are currently working on assessing courses that have not been taught in years or have not been assessed comprehensively in years (such as Constitutional Law and Political Theory respectively). We expect to have all SLOs assessed for every class scheduled to be offered in the near future.

Program Goal: Hire Full Time Faculty Member

Improve our full-time to part-time teaching ratio by hiring a replacement faculty member for the one who retired in spring 2016.

Goal Status: In Progress

Goal Year(s): 2018 - 2021

Start Date: 09/01/2018

Completion Date: 09/01/2019

How do your goals support the Educational Master Plan?: An additional full-time faculty member would allow students to have increased contact and to access their instructors during office hours etc. (Goal 3) It would also improve student learning and success by ensuring a greater variety and consistency of course offerings (Goals 1 & 5). Moreover, it would aid in institutional planning, advising, and reliable assessment for the discipline as a whole (Goal 6). Finally, it would allow for the advancement of our students ability to transfer to the CSU system by offering more new courses that would be accepted as transfer units (Goal 1).

This Program Goal Supports the selected EMP Goal(s) and Objective(s): Goal 1 Objective 1: Improve transfer preparedness (completes 60 transferable units with a 2.0 GPA or higher), Goal 1 Objective 2: Improve transfer rate by 10% over 5 years. , Goal 1 Objective 3: Increase the percentage of basic skills students who complete the basic skills pipeline by supporting the development of alternatives to traditional basic skills curriculum., Goal 1 Objective 4: , Goal 1 Objective 5: , Goal 1 Objective 6: , Goal 1 Objective 7: , Goal 1 Objective 8: , Goal 1 Objective 9: , Goal 1 Objective 10: , Goal 2 Objective 1: , Goal 2 Objective 2: ,

Program Review - Instructional: Political Science

Goal 2 Objective 3: , Goal 3 Objective 1: , Goal 3 Objective 2: , Goal 3 Objective 3: , Goal 4 Objective 4: , Goal 4 Objective 5: , Goal 4 Objective 6: , Goal 5 Objective 1: , Goal 5 Objective 2: , Goal 5 Objective 3: , Goal 5 Objective 4: , Goal 5 Objective 5: , Goal 7 Objective 1: , Goal 7 Objective 4: , Goal 7 Objective 5:

Program Goal: Assessment SLOs for all POLS Classes Taught

Improve the discipline's assessment of learning outcomes

Goal Status: In Progress

Goal Year(s): 2018 - 2021

Start Date: 02/01/2018

Completion Date: 07/01/2021

How do your goals support the Educational Master Plan?: These assessment efforts allow the discipline to track important statistics on Goals 1 (Student Achievement) and 5 – (Strengthening Student Success), by advancing student learning through assessment and collaboration.

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Program Goal: Implement UC ADT, Teach Courses Haven't Been Taught in Years, and Explore the Creation of New POLS Courses

Implement the new UC ADT. Teach courses such as POL 5 (Constitutional Law that haven't been taught in years). Upon resolving the full-time staffing issues, POL 7 needs to be taught, it hasn't been taught since fall 2013, since it is not part of the UC ADT. Finally, the discipline across the district is engaged in conversations exploring the development of additional courses in the program tailored to transfer to particular CSU schools. For Norco College, the consistent offering of any new courses is contingent on hiring a new full time faculty member with the relevant area expertise and complementary specialization.

Goal Status: In Progress

Goal Year(s): 2018 - 2021

Start Date: 02/01/2018

Completion Date: 07/01/2021

How do your goals support the Educational Master Plan?: These efforts to diversify the coursework offered at Norco College, are tied to the first Strategic Planning Goal 1– Increase Student Achievement and Success. POLS is interested in advancing civic engagement of students in their community.

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