

Department of Political Science

Office or Department of Academic Affairs

Administrative Unit Assessment

Year Reporting: FY 20 (July 2019-July 2020)

Department and Assessment Report Information

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For which department or area are you reporting?	Department of Political Science
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Departmental Mission and Goals

The mission and goals of the department should be consistent over a 5 year period, although some institutional changes may necessitate and prompt a change in mission or goals for specific departments. In this section, you will repo

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">3) Increase enrollment in the minors and the certificate program offered by the department.4) Identify and implement opportunities for collaboration with other departments, both within and outside the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences.5) Improve student retention, progression, and graduation in the core curriculum courses offered by the department.6) Optimize scheduling to reduce the number of underutilized sections and expenditures on inter-campus travel.7) Increase the diversity of the department's full-time faculty.
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Objective 2

Objective 2: What was this department's second objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.	The Department of Political Science will propose a new baccalaureate minor in pre-law and have it approved for implementation in fall 2020.
Objective 2: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)	Was the minor proposed and approved?
Objective 2: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)	Propose the minor and have it approved.
Objective 2: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)	100% (minor was proposed and approved).
Objective 2: Did your department meet this objective?	The department met this objective.
Objective 2: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?	We successfully navigated the curriculum approval process to have our proposal adopted, with amendments to include an appropriate new course in legal writing offered by the Department of English. We anticipate recruiting students actively into this minor starting in fall 2020.

Objective 3

<p>Objective 3: What was this department's third objective for this fiscal year? Objectives should be specific, measurable, and achievable within one year.</p>	<p>The Department of Political Science will reduce the combined aggregate DFW rate in POLS 1101 for the full terms this academic year to 0.95 times its combined rate in the full terms the previous academic year.</p>
<p>Objective 3: Detail how your department measured this objective? (Survey, budget number, number of participants, jobs completed, measurable time and/or effort)</p>	<p>DFW rates calculated based on final grades posted in SWORDS.</p>
<p>Objective 3: What was your target outcome for this objective? (1.e. 80% participation, 5% enrollment growth, 7% change in engagement)</p>	<p>Combined DFW rate of 29.6%</p>
<p>Objective 3: At what level did the department/area achieve on this objective? (This should be a number, i.e. 82%, 6%, 345 attendees, 75% engagement)</p>	<p>Combined DFW rate of 25.4%</p>
<p>Objective 3: Did your department meet this objective?</p>	<p>The department exceeded this objective.</p>
<p>Objective 3: What did your department learn from working toward this objective? What changes will you make based on this effort next year?</p>	<p>Th</p>

Objective 4

Future Plans

<p>Please identify and detail three to four measurable objectives for the next fiscal year. In listing the objectives, please use the format shown in these examples. 1) The Department of X will improve services levels by 5% as measured by our satisfaction survey. 2) The department of X will provide training in ABC for at least 73 MGA faculty and staff.</p>	<p>1) The Department of Political Science will increase the total enrollment in the bachelor of science in political science program from 33 enrolled students in spring 2020 to 56 enrolled students in spring 2021.</p> <p>2) The Department of Political Science will redesign the Sustainability Policy Studies minor to facilitate student completion and attract greater enrollment, in collaboration with other departments.</p> <p>3) The Department of Political Science will reduce the combined aggregate DFW rate in POLS 1101 for the full terms this academic year to 0.95 times its combined rate in the full terms the previous academic year.</p> <p>4) The Department of Political Science will increase the combined ratio of seats filled to seats offered per section in POLS 1101 for the full terms this academic year over its rate in the full terms the previous academic year by two percentage points, while maintaining the current section cap of 35 students per section (or the room size, whatever is less).</p>
<p>Based on this assessment, please share your thoughts on the current status and future direction of this department or area.</p>	<p>As a new department with a relatively new bachelor’s program, we have an opportunity to build a department that is simultaneously effective, collegial, and efficient. We continue to rely excessively on overloads—with all tenure-line faculty typically teaching overloads every semester—and, to a lesser extent, shared and part-time faculty to meet the demand for general education courses even though we are limiting courses supporting the major and our minors to the bare essentials for student progression. Our department is also excessively top-heavy, with 50% of the department's faculty being full professors and all but one tenure-line faculty member holding tenure, with that faculty member likely to be granted tenure after this academic year. Accordingly we require at least two additional tenure-track faculty lines to discontinue our routine use of overloads,</p>

