

Political Science [POLS]

Cycles included in this report:
Jun 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018

Program Name: Political Science [POLS]

Reporting Cycle: Jun 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018

1 Is this program offered via Distance Learning?

100% Traditional or less than 50% Distance/Traditional

2 Is this program offered at an off-site location?

No

2.1 If yes to previous, provide addresses for each location where 50% or more of program credits may be earned.

3 Example of Program Improvement

2016-2017:

Met with IRE to improve master plans. Developed new benchmarks and assessments.

2017-2018:

Increased writing requirements for students enrolled in POLS courses, based on writing expectations within the political science profession.

4 Program Highlights from the Reporting Year

2016-2017:

Students continue to meet benchmarks.

2017-2018:

The program had 16 graduates in the reporting period, evenly divided between the fall and spring semesters.

See attached file for program and faculty highlights.

Files:

POLS(BA) 2017-18 Achievements

5 Program Mission

The purposes of the Bachelor of Arts degree in political science are:

- Students will broaden their knowledge of political science through a program of liberal arts study as well as specialized study in political sciences.
- Students will be introduced to political theories, comparative politics, political history, and other important aspects of government and its historical development.
- To offer students opportunities to minor in political science and/or better acquaint themselves with political sciences.
- All political science majors will receive instruction in statistics, the scientific method, languages, and philosophy to enhance their political science studies.
- To prepare interested political science majors for the study of law or graduate level study in political sciences.
- To serve the University, the academic community, and Southwest Louisiana through teaching, research, community service and University service. Faculty is encouraged to be engaged in research and publication.

6 Institutional Mission Reference

This degree supports the University's fundamental mission to offer baccalaureate curricula in service to the residents and employers of the SWLA region and beyond. It provides opportunities for student internships in local industry and prepares students to become effective in academic and professional environments.

7 Assessment and Benchmark POLS 201 Writing Assignment

Assessment: Students will demonstrate effective writing skills in POLS 201 by completing writing assignment.

Benchmark: 80% of students in POLS 201 will earn a B or better on their Application of Concepts Writing Assignment.

Prior to 2017-2018, the benchmark was 80% of students will earn a B or better on their research paper.

Files:

Assessment Template

POLS Application of Concepts Assignment

Course Links

POLS201 [American Government (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]

Outcome Links

Writing [Program]

Students will demonstrate effective written communication skills.

International Politics [Program]

Students will analyze the international political environment.

American Political System [Program]

Students will describe and analyze American political system.

7.1 Data [Not Approved]

2016-2017:

This is a new assessment, data tracking will begin next year.

2017-2018:

Hard copies of all the materials from the Political Science (POLS) 201 classes of Indurthy and Sirgo for 2017-2018 are in the possession of institutional research. Jessica Markstrom's online results were forwarded to Institutional Research.

Indurthy's application of concept results for the fall semester of 2017 were a slightly above average B for the fall semester of 2017 with a total enrollment in his three sections of 62.

Sirgo's application of concept results for the fall semester of 2017 were a slightly lower A with a total enrollment of 24.

Indurthy's application of concept results for the spring semester of 2018 were about a B, with a total enrollment in his three sections of 53.

Sirgo's application of concept results for the spring semester of 2018 were an A with a total enrollment in his two sections of 26.

Term	Indurthy's students earning a B or above		Sirgo's students earning a B or above	
	#	%	#	%
Fall 2017	/62		/24	
Spring 2018	/53		/26	

Term	Students earning B or higher		Benchmark met?
	#	%	
Fall 2018			
Spring 2019			

Course Links**POLS201 [American Government (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****7.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement [Not Approved]**

2016-2017:

This is a new assessment. Data tracking will begin next year.

2017-2018:

Results for students fall within the acceptable range for this outcome.

Course Links**POLS201 [American Government (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****8 Assessment and Benchmark SOSC 499 Capstone Assignment**

Assessment: SOSC 499 prospectus grades for political science majors.

Benchmark: 90% of students will successfully (earn a B or better) develop a prospectus for future research as their capstone assignment in SOSC 499.

Files:

SOSC499 Grades 2017-18

SOSC499 Syllabus

Course Links**SOSC499 [Senior Research Seminar Capstone Experience (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****Outcome Links****Critical Thinking [Program]**

Students will demonstrate critical thinking.

Writing [Program]

Students will demonstrate effective written communication skills.

International Politics [Program]

Students will analyze the international political environment.

American Political System [Program]

Students will describe and analyze American political system.

8.1 Data

Term	Students earning B or higher		Benchmark met?
	#	%	
Spring 2014	–	75%	No
Fall 2014	–	100%	Yes
Spring 2015	–	100%	Yes
Fall 2015	–	100%	Yes
Spring 2016	–	100%	Yes
Fall 2016	–	100%	Yes
Spring 2017	14/15	93.3%	Yes
Fall 2017	21/21	100%	Yes
Spring 2018	29/30	97%	Yes
Summer 2018	7/7	100%	Yes
Fall 2018			
Spring 2019			

[Course Links](#)**SOSC499 [Senior Research Seminar Capstone Experience (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****8.1.1 Analysis of Data and Plan for Continuous Improvement [Not Approved]**

2016-2017:

Benchmark exceeded. Continue maintaining high level of achievement. Continue providing appropriate assistance, mentorship, and resources for students in SOSC 499.

2017-2018:

Between 97% and 100% of the students earned a grade of B or better on the assessment. Benchmark exceeded.

[Course Links](#)**SOSC499 [Senior Research Seminar Capstone Experience (Lec. 3, Cr. 3)]****Program outcomes**

Critical Thinking

Students will demonstrate critical thinking.

Writing

Students will demonstrate effective written communication skills.

International Politics

Students will analyze the international political environment.

American Political System

Students will describe and analyze American political system.

End of report