

Political Science Certificate

Knowledge & Skills

Goal Description:

The 18-hour Certificate program aims to serve high school teachers seeking to improve their professional credentials and individuals wanting to teach in the community colleges.

Providing Department: Political Science Certificate

Progress: Ongoing

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

MA-level understanding of at least one of the major subfields

Learning Objective Description:

Upon completion of the 18-hour Certificate in Political Science program, students will be able to evaluate political theories and discuss the significant research in one of the program's three major subfields: American Politics, Comparative Politics, or International Relations.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

90% with A or B in Core Seminars

Indicator Description:

Students in the 18-hour Certificate program must complete one of the following required courses: POLS 5330 (American Politics), POLS 5371 (Comparative Politics), or POLS 5373 (International Relations). We expect over 90% of 18-hour Certificate students to complete their required course with either an A or B.

Criterion Description:

At least 90% of students in the 18-hour Certificate Program will pass either POLS 5330, POLS 5371 or POLS 5373 earning a grade of either A or a B.

Findings Description:

The department offered sections of POLS 5330 in Fall 2021 and Spring 2022; a section of POLS 5371 in Fall 2021; and a section of POLS 5373 in Spring 2022. Of the students in the 18-hour Certificate Program who successfully completed these courses, 100% earned a grade of either A or B.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action - Core Seminars

Action Description:

We will continue to measure CERT students' knowledge and skills by assessing whether at least 90% complete their required core course -- either POLS 5330, POLS 5371, or POLS 5373 -- with either an A or B.

New Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

This is a new unit for the 2021-2022 assessment cycle. No previous PCI available.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

This is a new unit for the 2021-2022 assessment cycle. No previous PCI available.

New Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Closing Summary:

For the coming 2022-23 academic year, we have the following plans for the CERT program:

1. Continue to work on establishing specific goals, underlying objectives, KPIs, etc. for the CERT program, now that it is a separate item in the Assessment Cycle.
2. Work with the coordinator of the Lone Star Plus-18 Partnership program to review and evaluate all SHSU Political Science graduate course designators as eligible electives for the CERT program curriculum.