

Public Administration and Public Policy Minor

Prepare students for careers in public and nonprofit sectors

Goal Description:

The department's Public Administration & Public Policy minor provides students a curriculum composed of POLS courses designed to prepare students who wish to pursue careers in the public and nonprofit sectors.

Providing Department: Public Administration and Public Policy Minor

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Gain understanding of national public administration

Learning Objective Description:

Students in the Minor in Public Administration and Public Policy will gain an understanding of national public administration with emphasis on the political processes within the surrounding administrative agencies.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Core course in public administration

Indicator Description:

Students in the Minor in Public Administration and Public Policy must take POLS 3366 ("Public Administration") as a required course. This course has an objective of introducing students to the national public administration with emphasis on the political processes within the surrounding administrative agencies.

Student performance in these courses is an indicator that they have achieved this objective.

Criterion Description:

We expect that at least 85% of students enrolled in POLS 3366 during the academic year will pass with a grade of C or better.

Findings Description:

For the 3366 course in Fall 2021, 94% of the students earned C or higher grades. For the POLS 3366 course in Spring 2022, 94.12% of (17) students earned a C or higher in the course.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action - Core Course in Public Administration

Action Description:

For the coming year, we plan to keep this as a criterion while continuing to explore potentially better options to assess the program's learning objectives.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Understanding of the process of public policy

Learning Objective Description:

Students in the Minor in Public Administration and Public Policy will gain an understanding of the ways in which governmental entities in the U.S. make public policy.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Core course in public policy

Indicator Description:

Students in the Minor in Public Administration and Public Policy must take POLS 3302 ("Public Policy") as a required course. This course has an objective of introducing students to the ways in which governmental entities in the U.S. make public policy.

Student performance in these courses is an indicator that they have achieved this objective.

Criterion Description:

We expect that at least 85% of students taking POLS 3302 in the current academic year will pass with a grade of C or better.

Findings Description:

For the POLS 3302 course offered in Fall 2021, 90.63% (29 out of 32) of students passed the course with a grade of C or better.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action - Core Course in Public Policy

Action Description:

For the coming year, we plan to keep this as a criterion while continuing to explore potentially better options to assess the program's learning objectives.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Plan to assess SLOs of minor

Performance Objective Description:

In 2021, department faculty who teach within the PAPP minor will work to develop a means of assessing student learning outcomes (SLOs) within the minor.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

SLO assessment plan

KPI Description:

Political science faculty teaching within the PAPP minor will meet and, in conjunction with the department chair, develop a plan to assess student learning outcomes

Results Description:

Not completed in AY 2021-2022. We plan to revisit and include this as a goal in AY 2022-2023.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

SLO assessment plan

Action Description:

The department will work on this objective in AY 2022-2023.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Regularize the curriculum

Performance Objective Description:

The department will work to ensure that the PAPP minor offers the required courses (POLS 3366 and POLS 3302) and any POLS elective courses on a regular basis to meet student demand.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Course Offerings

KPI Description:

Department will offer POLS 3366 and POLS 3302 at least once per academic year (with multiple sections if demand warrants) and at least one of the POLS elective courses per semester.

Results Description:

In the 2021-2022 academic year (including Fall 2021 and Spring 2022), the department offered one section of POLS 3366 in each of the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 terms; and one section of POLS 3302 in the Fall 2021 term. The department also offered at least one elective course (listed in the PAPP minor curriculum) per semester.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Course Offerings

Action Description:

For next AY, consider exploring a more nuanced criterion here. For example, we'd like to find a balance between online and face-to-face offerings for these courses that meet student needs and helps the program grow.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

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

There was no PCI created for the 2020-2021 assessment cycle for this plan.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

There was no PCI created for the 2020-2021 assessment cycle for this plan.

New Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Closing Summary:

For the coming year, the primary goal of the department with respect to this program will be a focused assessment of student learning objectives and some thinking about how to best assess these objectives.