

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:

The department offered POLS 3366 in Fall 2022 and Spring 2023.

- Fall 2022 -- 29 students completed the course; 27 (93.1%) completed the course earning a grade of C or better
- Spring 2023 -- 14 students completed the course; 13 (92.9%) completed the course earning a grade of C or better

In total, 43 students completed the course in AY22-23. Of these, 40 (93%) completed the course earning a grade of C or better.

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:

The department offered POLS 3302 in Fall 2022. Thirty-two (32) students completed the course. Of these 24 (75%) earned 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 2023, 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

Target Description:

Success will be defined as (1) meeting to discuss assessment options for the minor (2) if it is determined that a better measure of SLO is appropriate, developing that measure.

Results Description:

Not completed in AY 2022-2023. We plan to revisit and include this as a goal in AY 2023-2024.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

SLO assessment plan

Action Description:

We plan to revisit and include this as a goal in AY 2023-2024.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

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

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.

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

We did not have the opportunity to complete this program goal in AY22-23.

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. In addition, the program will explore the idea of a 15-hour certificate that will mirror the PAPP minor. This fits with the idea of "stackable credentials" and could be very marketable to firefighters, etc.