

SIUE Undergraduate Assessment and Program Review

Department of Political Science Submitted by Carolyn Shaw, Chair

8/28/09

Program-initiated Goal of Objective	Where, When, and How Monitored	Expectation for Satisfactory Performance	Decision Point	Observations of Student Performance	When and By Whom Were Results Assessed?	Outcome of Analysis	Dept. or Program Follow-up
<p><i>Students will acquire knowledge of the scope of the discipline of political science; learn about the methods of political inquiry; and have the ability to employ concepts in analyzing and thinking about politics in any area of the discipline.</i></p>	<p>Senior Seminar (POLS 600) Taught in the fall semester each year</p>	<p>Students are required to present the results of their research before class members and the departmental faculty. Each student must receive a grade of "C" or better to complete the course satisfactorily, and each student must demonstrate facility with social science concepts applicable to the chosen topic.</p>	<p>Each student is expected to formulate a hypothesis of a defensible thesis statement on a topic of interest to the student; then, the student will conduct an extensive literature review and make an outline of the paper to be presented to the faculty member supervising the student's work. After the paper is completed, the faculty member supervising the paper reads and evaluates the student's performance. Criteria for evaluation: thoroughness of the research, the research results, the organization of the paper, and the quality of the writing.</p>	<p>19 students exceeded or met expectations; 2 students did not meet expectations</p>	<p>Class presentations given throughout the month of April; evaluated by department faculty</p>	<p>Objectives not wholly satisfied. Prof. Azpuru is further modifying the course content to be focused almost exclusively on the seminar paper.</p>	<p>Department faculty met in a retreat in August 2009 to further discuss and align expectations of senior seminar students. Faculty will be working more closely with their advisees during the seminar process to ensure quality research and writing.</p>