



Political Science Program Review 2006-2007

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Table of Contents	Page #
FACULTY	p. 3
LIST OF DEGREES/	p. 3
SEQUENCE OF COURSES	p. 3
INSTITUTIONAL COMPETENCIES	p. 4
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	p. 5
PROGRAM GOALS	p. 5
PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES	p. 5
SLO TIMELINE	p. 6
MISSION	p. 7
Commendations	
Previous Recommendations Completed	
Recommendations	
NEED	p. 8
Commendations	
Previous Recommendations Completed	
Recommendations	
QUALITY	p. 9
Commendations	
Previous Recommendations Completed	
Recommendations	
FEASIBILITY	p. 9
Commendations	
Previous Recommendations Completed	
Recommendations	
COMPLIANCE	p. 9
Commendations	
Previous Recommendations Completed	
Recommendations	
ADDENDUM	p. 10

FACULTY

FULL-TIME FACULTY:

Glenn Ross
Dr. Ron Leos (retiring June 2007)

ADJUNCT FACULTY:

Tom Glenn
Roger Hernandez
Carmen Holland
Dr. Lisa Ross
Michael Thrasher
Fred Van Wickle

LIST OF DEGREES

Political Science courses play a fundamental roll in general education requirements satisfying UC and CSU general education requirements. Political science courses may also be taken as part of the Associate in Arts degree for Social and Behavioral Sciences.

SEQUENCE OF COURSES

UNITS

POLI 103	Government of United States	3
POLI 103 H	Government of United States (Honors)	3
POLI 104	Introduction to Political Science	3
POLI 105	Comparative Politics	3
POLI 110	Current American Political Issues	3
POLI 111	Introduction to Public Policy	3
POLI 116	Contemporary Work Politics	3
POLI 118	Contemporary Law and Legal Issues	3

CLASSES NOT OFFERED IN THE LAST TWO YEARS

POLI 111	Introduction to Public Policy
POLI 116	Contemporary Work Politics
POLI 118	Contemporary Law and Legal Issues

The **Political Science** program has adopted the Institutional General Education Competencies of Citrus College. The General Education Competencies (as set forth in the Academic Senate minutes dated August 25, 2004) are as follows:

Institutional General Education Competencies- Part of Institutional Mission

General education competencies serve as a common set of core curricular components identified and defined by faculty. Student learning outcomes are behaviors based on these competencies.

Any student transferring, completing a degree or certificates from Citrus College, must demonstrate effectively assessed awareness, understanding, knowledge, skills, and abilities in the selected competencies.

1. Communication (personal expression and information acquisition)

Examples

Reading analytically and critically Speaking articulately

Writing with clarity and fluency Listening actively

2. Computation

Examples

Technology Computer proficiency

Math proficiency Decision analysis

Analyzing and using numerical data (synthesis and evaluation)

Application of mathematical concepts and reasoning

3. Creative, Critical, and Analytical Thinking

Examples

Curiosity Research

Analysis Learning Strategies

Synthesis Problem Solving

Evaluation Decision making

Creativity Aesthetic awareness

4. Community, Critical, and Analytical Thinking

Examples

Respect for others citizenship

Cultural awareness Interpersonal skills

Ethics Lifelong learning

Community service self esteem

Integrity Empathy

5. Technology/information competency

Examples

Basic computing and word processing

6. Discipline/subject Area Specific Content Material - Project Plan

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Political Science is the study of the origin, character, and composition of political systems and the political philosophies—and the political theorists that developed these philosophies—that gave rise to such governmental systems. With specific regard to the American political system, Political Science concerns itself with the structure and function of the American institutions of government, both historical and contemporary, and particular reference to and focus upon the three branches of the government of the United States: The presidency, the congress, and the courts.

Program Goals

The Political Science program seeks to equip students with an understanding of democracy and facilitates the participation and fulfillment of the obligations of citizenship. While political science courses should first be viewed as essential elements of a balanced education, majors in the field can ultimately look forward to careers in the field of politics, law, teaching, civil service, public service, and foreign service.

Program Student Learning Outcomes

#1 Communication (personal expression and information acquisition) information competency.

Utilize college-level articulation to judge different behavioral science research design by participating in class discussions group exercises essays and exams to develop communication skills needed for transfer level coursework.

Demonstrate analytical and critical analysis skills using college level vocabulary and writing skills as demonstrated through written responses in essays, research papers, or exams for the purposes of successfully navigating a transferable level course.

#2 Computation

Demonstrate proficiency in analyzing numerical data in order to critique historical data and to gain perspective of the role of data in historical research and research methodology.

#3 Creative Critical and Analytical Thinking

Analyze basic concepts which have been embodied in the structure of governments and governmental systems by participating in class discussions, group exercises, essays, and exams to develop an understanding of the functions of governments.

#4 Community and Critical Thinking

Analyze the forms of government in terms of civil and human rights as well as international relationships by participating in class discussions, group

exercises, research, essays, and exams to develop an understanding of the impact of the political process on society.

Identify and analyze the environmental, cultural, historical and social factors effecting the development of political systems today by participating in class discussions group exercises, research, essays, and exams to develop an understanding of political systems.

#5 Technology

Demonstrate technological skills such as word processing, electronic messaging, and navigating through the internet, synchronous and asynchronous discussions, electronic database research and/or other computer based assignments to improve technology skills necessary in a world that relies on increasing technology to gain information and as a means of communication.

#6 Discipline

Identify and analyze the types of problems associated with political and economic development in society by participating in class discussions group exercises, research, essays, and exams to develop an understanding of the study of political science.

Analyze the political theorists and philosophies that have given rise to governmental systems by participating in class discussions group exercises, research, essays, and exams to develop an understanding of the study of political science.

SLO TIMELINE

The Political Science Department will develop student learning outcomes for all classes offered at Citrus College based on the following schedule.

Course Title		Projected date to develop SLO's
POLI 103	Government of United States	Aug. 2007
POLI 104	Introduction to Political Science	Sept. 2007
POLI 105	Comparative Politics	Sept. 2007
POLI 110	Current American Political Issues	Oct. 2007
POLI 111	Introduction to Public Policy	Oct. 2007
POLI 116	Contemporary World Politics	Nov. 2007
POLI 118	Contemporary Law and Legal Issues	Nov. 2007

Any new classes offered will have student learning outcomes developed when the class is offered. The department will work with the curriculum committee to ensure the course outlines are being developed according to standards developed by the committee.

MISSION

COMMENDATIONS

1. The study of Political Science will assist students to better understand their individual relationships within society and the world. An understanding of Political Science complements all scholastic disciplines, all occupations, and promotes responsible citizenship.
2. Overall, female students outnumbered males 58% to 42%; however, this difference was proportional to the ratio of females to males on campus.
3. Students, age 20-24 years represented the largest age demographic, and was also greatest in terms of percentage proportional to their total population.
4. Caucasian and Hispanic student enrollment were the two highest (reflecting their larger presence on campus) and did not differ significantly from each other. The percentages relative to population were close to the overall mean (6.0% Caucasian, 5.9% Hispanic.)
5. These sections remain overwhelmingly popular for students whose educational goals at Citrus are degree/transfer or transfer/ no degree compared to students whose aim is to attain the AA/AS degree.

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETED

N/A Due to structure and format of previous program review.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Citrus college should offer a greater variety of courses in Political Science. This should include studies of specific political systems in various parts of the world to reflect the increasing impact of world politics on our society.
2. Relative to their representation the courses were in highest demand by students of Asian descent (6.86% of total Asian population) Consequently adequate support should be given these students particularly if they are part of Foreign Student Program and need second language resources and tutoring. Further study is needed to see if this is a student need in order to achieve academic success.
3. Enhance the diversity of course offerings, e.g. increase number of sections offered , POLI SCI 105 Comparative Politics, or other courses in a rotating fashion
4. Develop additional courses reflecting diversity including African American Politics or Foreign Policy/Contemporary Issues in International Relations.
5. Improve minority enrollment in all sections; particularly of African Americans and students of Philippines/Pacific Islands origin
6. Explore the development of general interest courses that might appeal to a wider population and include the interest of older students who might be seeking course for general interest.

NEED

COMMENDATIONS

1. Political Science remains one of the steadiest disciplines offered at Citrus College as evidenced by average enrollment figures representing just over 6.0% of total college enrollment between Fall 1999 and Spring 2005.
2. The 03-'04 academic year witnessed a peak of 6.47% above the six-year mean, but the overall enrollment trend remained stable.
3. Political Science 103, Government of the United States, was the course with the greatest number of sections and highest enrollment, with 90.16% of all political science students enrolling in this course.
4. The present program satisfies its stated purpose of general education and CSU transfer.
5. Membership and participation in professional associations keeps the program updated on current trends and needs for academics
6. Evening and distance education courses are offered to meet the needs of working professionals seeking education and are only available at non-traditional times.
7. The Political Science Program provides excellent service to the District in the following areas as noted in these 5-year averages:

Weekly student contact hours	4608.6	
High 5,458 (2003-2004) Low 4190 (2001-2 & 2002-3)		
Full-time equivalent students served weekly	153.6	
Average WSCH/FTEF (525=good)	716.6	
All years exceeded "good" rating with a high of 801 (2004-2005) and low of 644.5 (2002-2003)		
Average class size	39.3	
FTEF per FTEF		25.46
Full-time equivalence	15.46	

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETED

N/A Due to structure and format of previous program review.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Periodic review of course scheduling to assure most needed classes have sufficient number of sections to assure students can reach their desired academic goals within a timely manner.
2. Create a full-time faculty position to replace retiring faculty and meet the growing demand for classes and support the need for a culturally diverse staff of instructors.
3. Program should review the schedule of courses that are not frequently taught to determine how to best rotate each into the offering of courses.

QUALITY
COMMENDATIONS

1. All full/part time faculty meet District qualifications and are well qualified academically and professionally to teach in this program.
2. Faculty members have extensive education in Political Science. Some members have substantial teaching experience; all keep current with political science events and thinking.
3. Faculty are actively involved as well as local and regional professional associations and routinely participate in study abroad adding first hand experience to the study of international politics.
4. Courses require critical thinking and require analytical writing skills.

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETED

Most classrooms have enhanced technology for instructor use to facilitate instruction.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continual updates on software and instructional technology should be made in classrooms and faculty offices.
2. Faculty members should be provided opportunities to attend regional and national conferences involving the discipline and educational technology.
3. Technology in classrooms should be maintained and kept in good repair.

FEASIBILITY
COMMENDATION

The present program has been able to find an adequate number of adjunct faculty and available classrooms to serve its growing clientele.

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETED

N/A Due to structure and format of previous program review.

RECOMMENDATION

Citrus college should hire at least one additional full-time Political Science instructor to replace the retiring faculty member and reduce the need for additional adjunct instructors, keeping in mind the need for cultural diversity among faculty members.

COMPLIANCE
COMMENDATIONS

1. All Political Science course credits are transferable to CSU and/or UC and private universities.
2. Courses are in high demand because of the role political science plays in general education. All courses are current with transfer requirements.

PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS COMPLETED

N/A Due to structure and format of previous program review.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All courses will need faculty review in 2007-2008 to comply with District standards for inclusion of student learning outcomes on all course outlines.
2. A sufficient pool of adjunct faculty needs to be maintained to assure the adequate number of sections may be offered each semester.
3. Citrus college should hire at least one additional full-time Political Science instructor to replace the retiring faculty member and reduce the need for additional adjunct instructors, keeping in mind the need for cultural diversity among faculty members.

Program Review Addendum
Political Science

January 23, 2008

The Political Science Program Review was delayed due to problems acquiring required pertinent data at the time it was submitted.

Recommendation Two of the Need section of the Political Science Program Review states: :Create a full-time faculty position to replace retiring faculty and meet the growing demand for classes and support the need for culturally diverse staff of instructors that requirement has been met.

Professor Gerhard Peters was hired and began his full-time teaching assignment in the fall of 2007.