

Program Rev 1. Strengths:

Excellent faculty with fidelity to the mission of Academia: the unfettered pursuit of truth via freedom of inquiry, freedom of conscience, and the exchange of ideas through civil discourse  
Headcount/Enrollment/Class size remained comparatively robust during the preCOVID period under review.  
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2. Areas for Improvement:

Alignment of program supply with student demand. More diligent assessment of course materials.

3. Projected Program Growth, Stability, or Viability:

Viability with some limited growth in the postCOVID period

B. Program's Support of Institutional Mission and Goals

1. Description of Alignment between Program and Institutional Mission:

The Political Science program offers a range of courses which introduce students to a political diverse, dynamic, and interdependent world and prepares them by augmenting their political knowledge and awareness, analytical abilities, and communicative skills. All five Political Science courses are transferable to the UC/CSU system.

-cost webbased text materials completely integrated and accessible on a wide variety of platforms.

3. Recent Program Activities Promoting the Goals of the Institutional Strategic Plan and Other Institutional Plans/Initiatives:

Lowering class cap and reallocating course offerings to provide more individualized instruction and more accurately reflect student demand

C. New Objectives/Goals:

Greater effort to precisely align programmatic offerings with student preference and demand

D. Description of Process Used to Ensure "Inclusive Program Review"

Spring 2023

This report covers the following program, degrees, certificates, area(s) of study, and courses (based on the Taxonomy Programs on file with the Office of Academic Affairs):

Program	Political Science
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I. PROGRAM DATA

	Sections	Average Size	Sections	Average Size	Sections	Average Size	Average Section Size	Trend
DCI 400	17	40.6	15	39.3 W				

*RPIE Analysis: The fill rate within the Political Science Program ranged from 60.8% to 74.3% over the past three years, and the fill rate across the three-year period was 69.1%. [Fill rate has not been calculated at the institutional level.] Between 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, both enrollment and capacity decreased, resulting in an increase in fill rate (due to a higher rate of decrease in capacity). Between 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, both enrollment and capacity decreased, resulting in a decrease in fill rate (due to a higher rate of decrease in enrollment).*

*Productivity within the Political Science Program ranged from 15.9 to 19.2 over the past three years, totaling 17.6 across the three-year period. [Productivity has not been calculated at the institutional level.] The three-year program productivity of 17.6 is higher than the target level of 17.5, which reflects 1 FTEF (full-time equivalent faculty) accounting for 17.5 FTEi17.E19T 33565 0 Td(-)Tj-0.003 Tj0.006 Tw 0.304 0 Td[(t)-*

B. Momentum

1. Retention and Successful Course Completion Rates

	Retention Rates (Across Three Years)	Successful Course Completion Rates (Across Three Years)
Level	Rate	



*Within the Political Science Program, the retention rate among African American/Black students was lower than the rate at the institutional level. (The difference was not statistically significant.)*

*Within the Political Science Program, the successful course completion rates among African American/Black, Latinx/Hispanic, and first-generation students were significantly lower than the corresponding rates at the institutional level. The successful course completion rates among veterans and students 19 and younger within the program were higher than the corresponding rates at the institutional level. (The differences were not statistically significant.)*

*These findings regarding retention and successful course completion among equity groups are consistent with the findings that emerged from the comparison of retention and successful course completion at the program vs. institutional level, where the program-level rate reflected the institution-level rate for retention and the program-level rate was significantly lower than the institution-level rate for successful course completion. (See Section I.B.1 above.)*

#### Program Reflection:

In terms of retention, POLI SCI numbers fell off here during the year period for African American students however those declines are not statistically significant as per RPIE analysis. Unfortunately, there is no similar program data listed for the other demographic groups listed and segment comparison cannot be made in terms of retention.

In terms of successful course completion, African American students, Hispanic students, and first-generation students, the data indicate that the POLI SCI program ranked lower than institutional averages. Considering previous program data that shows stable course completion data, one possible explanation may be the shift to online education during the COVID period may have disadvantaged those without permanent access to and/or familiarity with online platforms. This shift was more dramatic for Political Science than other departments since most courses were conducted in person prior to 2020. I expect subsequent Program Review will reveal a return to normal and stable course completion rates for all groups since the online education changeover and expectations are nearly complete.

Additionally i



In-person vs. Online	86.8%		85.3%	<b>60.4%</b>		69.7%
Hybrid vs. Online		100%	<b>85.3%</b>		<b>50.0%</b>	69.7%

Source: SQL Queries for Spring 2023 Program Review

This table compares student performance in courses offered through multiple delivery modes within the same academic year.

*Bold italics* denote a significantly lower rate within that delivery mode.

Note: The analysis of retention and successful course completion by delivery mode does not include spring 2020–spring 2021 because most courses shifted to an online/hybrid delivery mode beginning in spring 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic (thereby blurring

*RPIE Analysis:* Over the past three years, one course within the Political Science Program has been offered through at least two delivery modes within the same academic year. In 2019-2020, POLI-120 was offered through in-person, hybrid, and online formats. This analysis focuses on program-level rates. Since POLI-120 was the only course to be offered through multiple delivery modes, the program-level rates mirror the rates in POLI-120.

Within the Political Science Program:

- The retention rate in in-person sections was significantly lower than the retention rate in hybrid sections.
- The retention rate in online sections was lower than the retention rate in in-person sections. (The difference was not statistically significant.)
- The retention rate in online sections was significantly lower than the retention rate in hybrid sections.

Within the Political Science Program:

- The successful course completion rate within hybrid sections was lower than the successful course completion rate in in-person sections. (The difference was not statistically significant.)
- The successful course completion rate within in-person sections was significantly lower than the successful course completion rate in online sections.
- The successful course completion rate within hybrid sections was significantly lower than the successful course completion rate in online sections.

#### Program Reflection:

In terms of statistically significant changes in POLI SCI retention rates, the data indicate that hybrid courses significantly outperformed both online and in-person offerings. In terms of statistically significant changes in successful completion rates, online courses significantly (RPIE's conclusion) higher than both hybrid and in-person courses. Unfortunately, no institutional data has been provided to draw further conclusions about comparative performance.

### C. Student Achievement

#### 1. Program Completion

	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
Degrees			
Political Science AA	14	15	8
Institutional: AAT Degrees	158	145	132
Average Time to Degree (in Years)			
Political Science AA	3.8	3.8	*
Institutional: AAT Degrees	3.9	4.1	3.8





III. LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

A. Status of Learning Outcomes Assessment

Learning Outcomes Assessment at the Course Level

Number of Courses	Number of Courses with Outcomes Assessed		Proportion of Courses with Outcomes Assessed	
	Over Last 4 Years	Over Last 6 Years	Over Last 4 Years	Over Last 6 Years
5	3	2	60%	60%

Learning Outcomes Assessment at the Program/Degree/Certificate Level

Degree/Certificate	Number of Outcomes*	Number of Outcomes Assessed		Proportion of Outcomes Assessed	
		Over Last 4 Years	Over Last 6 Years	Over Last 4 Years	Over Last 6 Years
POLI AAT	15	8	13		

#### IV. PROGRAM PLAN

Based on the information included in this document, the program is described as being in a state of:

Viability

Stability

Growth

\*Please select ONE of the above.

This evaluation of the state of the program is supported by the following parts of this report:

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The program level plan that emerged from the last review Spring 2020

