



Texas Southern University
Assessment Plan 2010-2013

Unit Assessment Plan

School of Public Affairs

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

Introduction

Texas Southern University's Mission

Texas Southern University is a comprehensive metropolitan university. Building on its legacy as a historically black institution, the university provides academic and research programs that address critical urban issues and prepare an ethnically diverse student population to become a force for positive change in a global society.

In order to achieve this mission, Texas Southern University provides:

- quality instruction in a culture of innovative teaching and learning
- basic and applied research and scholarship that is responsive to community issues
- opportunities for public service that benefit the community and the world.

Texas Southern University's Vision

Texas Southern University will become one of the nation's pre-eminent comprehensive metropolitan universities. We will be recognized by the excellence of our programs, the quality of our instruction, our innovative research, and our desire to be a contributing partner to our community, state, nation, and world.

Accreditation Standards

Accreditation by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS) Commission on Colleges signifies that the institution: (1) has a mission appropriate to higher education, (2) has resources, programs, and services sufficient to accomplish and sustain that mission, and (3) maintains clearly specified educational objectives that are consistent with its mission and appropriate to the degrees it offers, and that indicate whether it is successful in achieving its stated objectives.

Source: The Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement, 5th edition

Goal 1 Assessment Plan 2010-11 to 2012-13

1 Goal Description

Goal 1:

To prepare students for a career in political science by providing essential knowledge of state, national and international political systems, and their relationships to the discipline of political science.

2 SLO Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

SLO 1.1: Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of a political system in various contexts, and the nature and dynamics of political science.

3 Metric

Metric 1.1

ETS Major Field Tests

Capstone Seminar

4 Target 2010-11

Target 1.1

Students will achieve a mean percent correct response of 70 on the "political thought" assessment indicators

5 Findings 2010-11

Finding 1.1

Students scored an average of 54% on questions of political thought. Scores on international and comparative government showed no growth. Performance in Capstone Seminar greater than performance on standardized test.

Target Not Met

6 Action Plan 2010-11

Action Plan 1.1

Based on 2010-11 Findings:

Institute Capstone Seminar as a requirement

Hire at least two full time instructors in the areas of international relations and comparative government

7 Target 2011-12

Target 1.1

Students will achieve a mean percent correct response of 75 on the political thought assessment indicators.

8 Findings 2011-12

Capstone Seminar was not instituted as a requirement. No curriculum changes were approved for this course. Department did not hire two professors to teach international relations and comparative government but did hire one visiting professor to teach these courses.

9 Action Plan 2011-12

Action Plan 1.1

Based on findings: institute Capstone Seminar as a requirement and hire at least two full-time instructors in the areas of international relations and comparative government.

10 Target 2012-13

Target 1.1

Students will achieve a mean percent correct response of 75 on the political thought assessment indicators.

11 Findings 2012-13

Finding 1.1

Students scored an average of 39% on questions on U.S. Government, Comparative Government and Politics and International Relations.

Target Not Met

12 Action Plan 2012-13

Action Plan 1.1

Based on findings: institute Capstone Seminar as a requirement and hire at least two full-time instructors in the areas of international relations and comparative government.

13 Additional Reference Documents

ETS Major Field Tests results

[20151214121648901](#) [PDF 1,805 KB 12/14/15]

Goal 2 Assessment Plan 2010-11 to 2012-13**1 Goal Description**

Goal 2:

To equip students with problem solving skills and competencies in political science that will translate to various work settings in the field.

2 SLO Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

SLO 2.1

Students will be able to utilize analytical, research and communication tools necessary to analyze, critique, and assist in the development of public policy.

3 Metric

Metric 2.1

ETS Major Field Tests

Capstone Seminar

4 Target 2010-11

Target 2.1

Students will achieve a mean percent correct response of 70 on the analytical thought assessment indicators

5 Findings 2010-11

Students scored in the 70% range on questions requiring analytical thought and research skills as measured by Capstone Seminar.

Target Met

6 Action Plan 2010-11

Action Plan 2.1

Based on 2010-11 Findings:

Institute Capstone Seminar as a requirement

Hire one full time professors to teach quantitative methods

Redesign courses where appropriate, to include section on critical thinking

7 Target 2011-12

Target 2.1

Students will achieve a mean percent correct response of 75 percent on the analytical thought assessment indicators.

8 Findings 2011-12

Capstone Seminar was not instituted as a requirement. No curriculum changes were approved for this course. the department was unable to hire a full-time professor to teach quantitative methods but did hire a visiting professor to teach the quantitative courses.

9 Action Plan 2011-12

Action Plan 2.1

Based on findings: institute Capstone Seminar as a requirement, hire one full-time professor to teach quantitative methods, redesign courses where appropriate, to include section on critical thinking.

10 Target 2012-13

Target 2.1

Students will achieve a mean percent correct response of 75 percent on the analytical thought assessment indicators.

11 Findings 2012-13

Students scored an average of 39% on questions on U.S. Government, Comparative and Politics and International Relations. Performance in Capstone Seminar greater than performance on standardized test.

Target Not Met

12 Action Plan 2012-13

Action Plan 2.1

Based on findings: institute Capstone Seminar as a requirement, hire one full-time professor to teach quantitative methods, redesign courses where appropriate, to include section on critical thinking.

13 Additional Reference Documents

ETS Major Field Tests results

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