



Texas Southern University
Assessment Plan 2010-2013

Unit Assessment Plan

School of Public Affairs

Doctorate in Urban Planning & Environmental Policy

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:

Enhance student learning in the core planning concepts and practices and prepare students for planning related research.

2 SLO Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

SLO 1.1: Students will demonstrate knowledge of advanced planning theory, methodologies, and environmental policies to conduct planning analysis.

3 Metric

Metric 1.1

Student scores on the Urban Planning & Environmental Policy (UPEP) PhD qualifying exam.

4 Target 2010-11

Target 1.1

50% or more of students will pass their qualifying exam on their first attempt.

5 Findings 2010-11

Findings 1.1

50% (one out of two) PhD students took and passed their qualifying exam the first time.

Target Met

6 Action Plan 2010-11

Action Plan 1.1

1) Assign each student an academic advisor to help the student select courses and prepare for the exam.

2) Provide study guide before the exam.

7 Target 2011-12

Target 1.1

60% of students will pass their qualifying exam on their first attempt.

8 Findings 2011-12

Findings 1.1

80% of the Ph.D. Students who took the qualifying examination, passed the first time.

Target Met

9 Action Plan 2011-12

Action Plan 1.1

1) Assign each student an academic advisor to help the student select courses and prepare for the exam,

2) Provide study guide before the exam

Students who complete course requirement work closely with their advisor and committee members to select their research topics and prepare for comprehensive exam.

10 Target 2012-13

Target 1.1

70% of students will pass their qualifying exam on their first attempt.

11 Findings 2012-13

Findings 1.1

80% of the students passed their examination, the first time.

Target Met

12 Action Plan 2012-13

Action Plan 1.1

1) Assign each student an academic advisor to help the student select courses and prepare for the exam,

2) Provide study guide before the exam

Students who complete course requirement work closely with their advisor and committee members to select their research topics and prepare for comprehensive exam.

13 Additional Reference Documents

UPEP PhD qualify exam reports

Goal 2 Assessment Plan 2010-11 to 2012-13

1 Goal Description

Goal 2:

To prepare future scholars to conduct high quality research in Urban Planning and Environmental Policy area and use inclusive approach to study urban issues.

2 SLO Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

SLO 2.1: Students will demonstrate the ability of critical thinking and comprehensive knowledge on specific planning research topics.

3 Metric

Metric 2.1

Percentage of students passing the UPEP PhD comprehensive exam.

4 Target 2010-11

Target 2.1

70% of students will pass their comprehensive exam on their first attempt.

5 Findings 2010-11

Finding 2.1

90% PhD students who took their comprehensive exam, passed the first time.

Target Met

6 Action Plan 2010-11

Action Plan 2.1

Students who complete course requirement work closely with their advisor and committee members to select their research topics and prepare for the comprehensive exam.

7 Target 2011-12

Target 2.1

80% of students will pass their comprehensive exam on their first attempt.

8 Findings 2011-12

Finding 2.1

90 % of the students who took their comprehensive examination, passed the first time.

Target Met

9 Action Plan 2011-12

Action Plan 2.1

Students who complete course requirement work closely with their advisor and committee members to select their research topics and prepare for comprehensive exam.

10 Target 2012-13

Target 2.1

90% of students will pass their comprehensive exam on their first attempt.

11 Findings 2012-13

Finding 2.1

80% have passed their comprehensive exam first time.

Target Met

12 Action Plan 2012-13

Action Plan 2.1

Students who complete course requirement work closely with their advisor and committee members to select their research topics and prepare for comprehensive exam.

13 Additional Reference Documents

UPEP PhD comprehensive exam reports

