

Administrative and Educational Support Report*

Department of Political Science

**Annual Action Plan
Annual Assessment Report**

June 2005 – May 2006

***Student Learning Outcomes for this department are available at
<http://ie.panam.edu/CoSBSLearningOutcomes.htm>**



Annual Action Plan: June 1, 2005–May 31, 2006

Unit: Political Science

UTPA Mission: The University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) serves the higher education needs of a rapidly growing, international, multicultural population in the South Texas Region. The University preserves, transmits and creates knowledge to serve the cultural, civic, and economic advancement of the region and the state. The University provides students advanced instruction in academic programs offered through innovative delivery systems that lead to professional certification, and baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees. Through teaching, research, creative activity and public service, UTPA prepares students for lifelong learning and leadership roles in the state, nation and world community.

Division: Academic Affairs **Unit Head:** Polinard

Unit Mission: The Department of Political Science's mission is to teach a body of knowledge and the critical-thinking skills of the social sciences; to add to this base of knowledge and skills through high-quality research; and to utilize the knowledge and skills in service to our local and professional communities.

Unit Goal: Increase academic and co-curricular opportunities for freshmen

Link to UTPA Goal(s): 1. Ensure undergraduate student access and success

Unit Objective (Action Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome for Unit Objective (AA-Measurable Objective)	Strategy(ies) to Achieve Expected Outcomes	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods for Expected Outcome	New Resources Needed in FY06
Increase and/or vary the POLS faculty who teach learning community (LC) classes by Fall 2006. (1)	1, 2	Number of faculty/LC classes will increase.	Schedule new learning community courses and/or teachers for LC courses	Count and/or identify faculty teaching LC classes by May 2006.	None

Unit Goal:	Improve department effectiveness
Link to UTPA Goal(s):	3. Improve UTPA's organizational effectiveness

Unit Objective (Action Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome for Unit Objective (AA-Measurable Objective)	Strategy(ies) to Achieve Expected Outcomes	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods for Expected Outcome	New Resources Needed in FY06
Develop and implement assessment program. (2)	7	Implement assessment activities at both the survey and advanced course levels.	Establish Assessment Committee to develop assessment activities.	Existence of assessment instrument; Compare the existence of assessment programs between the 2004 and 2005 academic years.	None

Unit Goal:	Improve access and success
Link to UTPA Goal(s):	1. Ensure undergraduate student access and success

Unit Objective (Action Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome for Unit Objective (AA-Measurable Objective)	Strategy(ies) to Achieve Expected Outcomes	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods for Expected Outcome	New Resources Needed in FY06
Increase chances of student success in POLS courses. (3)	1	Participate in at least 1 Learning Frameworks (LF) course by December 2005.	Develop POLS presentation for LF courses.	Identify the LF sections where the presentation has been made.	None



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Unit: Department of Political Science

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Unit Goal: Increase academic and co-curricular opportunities for freshmen

Link to UTPA Goal(s): 1. Ensure undergraduate student access and success

Unit Objective (Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods	Assessment Results (Use actual data to describe annual performance)	Use of Results (What change was made?)
Increase and/or vary the POLS faculty who teach learning community (LC) classes by Fall 2006. (1)	1, 2	Number of faculty/LC classes will increase.	Count and/or identify faculty teaching LC classes by May 2006.	Faculty willing to teach LC courses increased.	Recommended LC courses for AY07.

Unit Goal: Improve department effectiveness

Link to UTPA Goal(s): 3. Improve UTPA's organizational effectiveness

Annual Assessment Report, June 1, 2005–May 31, 2006

Unit Objective (Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods	Assessment Results (Use actual data to describe annual performance)	Use of Results (What change was made?)
Develop and implement assessment program. (2)	7	Implement assessment activities at both the survey and advanced course levels.	Existence of assessment instrument; Compare the existence of assessment programs between the 2004 and 2005 academic years.	Assessment program continued to be implemented.	Results used as basis for discussion in department meeting concerning assessment program.

Unit Goal:

Improve access and success

Link to UTPA Goal(s):

1. Ensure undergraduate student access and success

Unit Objective (Priority: #1 is highest)	Link to UTPA Objective	Expected Outcome	Assessment Criteria, Evaluation Methods	Assessment Results (Use actual data to describe annual performance)	Use of Results (What change was made?)
Increase chances of student success in POLS courses. (3)	1	Participate in at least 1 Learning Frameworks (LF) course by December 2005.	Identify the LF sections where the presentation has been made.	Three POLS professors participated in LF section presentations.	No change needed.