

I. Overview

A. Description of Program

The Political Science Program at El Camino has a variety of course offerings currently available to students. There are nine courses offered which are taught by four full-time faculty and eight part-time faculty. Delivery of instruction includes traditional lecture courses, online courses and telecourses.

Upon completion of the program, students will have gained comprehensive knowledge within the subfields of the discipline including the methodology employed by contemporary political scientists, current urban problems, issues pertaining to intergovernmental relations, and the role of international law and organizations within the world community.

The Political Science Program offers students the opportunity to obtain an A.A. degree or meet transfer requirements to other institutions. In order to obtain an A.A. degree students must complete a total of 21 units with 15 of these units from Political Science courses.

In order to complete this program review, a survey was completed by 596 students as well as a faculty survey of both full and part time faculty.

B. Status of Previous Recommendations

There were a variety of recommendations made from the 1996 program review, not all of which were accepted in the executive summary report. Listed below are some of the recommendations which were addressed or are still pending.

Concerns regarding the Social Science building were expressed and the lack of repairs. This recommendation had not been dealt with but this is now moot because the building has been scheduled for repair.

Creative advertisement and marketing of departmental course offerings were suggested. We are unaware if any progress has been made in this area.

There was a recommendation to offer all courses listed in the catalog were not being offered. As of Spring, 2007, all courses in the catalog are being offered as well as continue to be regularly offered.

A recommendation was made to hire two full-time faculty to teach classes that were not being offered. As of Fall 2005, two additional faculty were hired full time.

Additionally, a recommendation was made to increase the instructional support services for night students. We are unaware that any additional services have been offered to night students.

II. Program Statistics

A. Demand: FTES by Course/Program

Course	Year 1 (Fall 2005)	Year 2 (Fall 2006)	Year 3 (Fall 2007)
Political Science 1	124.48 (26 sections)	118.42 (26 sections)	99.15 (26 sections)
Political Science 2	3.61	6.69 (2 sections)	5.63 (2 sections)
Political Science 3	3.72	3.50	3.61
Political Science 5	2.76	3.72	3.08
Political Science 8	N/A	2.12	4.57
Political Science 10	5.74 (2 sections)	6.16 (2 sections)	6.26 (2 sections)

1. Given the data, can you recognize any trends in course demand in any of the Program's courses?

Based on data collected, recognizable trends are a continued and steady demand in the program's courses. As such it illustrates the program's efficiency in maintaining a consistent rate of FTES which translates into increased revenue for the college.

2. What are you doing to respond to trends?

Based on the positive numbers reflected from the above data, no response at this time is needed.

3. Should a recommendation be written that addresses the data? No

B. Offerings: Fill Rate

	Year 1 (Fall 2005)	Year 2 (Fall 2006)	Year 3 (Fall 2007)
Day classes	44.65 (23 sections) 100%	40.4 (25 sections) 99%	40.6 (25 sections) 90%
Evening classes	36.4 (8 sections) 81%	38.75 (8 sections) 78%	35.25 (8 sections) 75%
Political Science 1- Day	46.3 (20 sections) 103%	42.1 (21 sections) 94%	41.8 (21 sections) 93%
Political Science 1- Evening	40.5 (6 sections) 90%	45.4 (5 sections) 100%	40.2 (5 sections) 89%
Political Science 2- Day	34	39	32
Political Science 2- Evening	N/A	24	21
Political Science 3- Day	35	33	34
Political Science 5- Evening	26	35	29
Political Science 8- Day	N/A	20	43
Political Science 10- Day	32	34	28
Political Science 10- Evening	22	24	31

1. Given the data, is the program in a growth mode? Yes

For the last two academic years (Fall 06 and 07), we have added two day sections and continued to see high fill rates. Over the last three years, we have averaged 93% fill rates for all day courses and 82% for evening classes. Furthermore, Political Science 1 has consistently had a high fill rate averaging 95% during that same time frame.

2. What adjustments are indicated?

No adjustments are indicated at this point but a continued evaluation should be made and courses added as need requires. Based on our fill rates, the Political Science department has been successful at predicting future needs and fulfilling them.

3. Should a recommendation be written that addresses the data? No

C. Scheduling: Student Satisfaction with Scheduling

Course	During the early morning before 10 am	During the late am/early pm 10am-1:55pm	During the late afternoon 2pm-4:25pm	During the evening 4:30-later	During the weekend	During the summer	Via telecourse	Via Online
Fall 2007								
Poli 1	10 sections	7 sections	4 sections	6 sections			1 section	1 section
Poli 2		1 section		1 section				
Poli 3	1 section							
Poli 5				1 section				
Poli 8		1 section						
Poli 10			1 section	1 section				

1. What if anything is indicated by the student satisfaction with scheduling?

Analyzing survey data, load summaries, and discussions with students, students overwhelming prefer classes held over two days lasting one and a half hour. Only 14.9% of students polled prefer MWF classes while 74.51% prefer classes on either MW or TH.

Additionally, in analyzing the responses to class times, students would prefer (32.5%) mid morning or late morning classes. Twenty two percent (22.19%) would prefer early morning classes starting at 9:00 am or before. Finally, twenty one percent (21.25) of students would prefer more evening classes.

2. Are there time periods of high student demand which are not being addressed? No

3. Should a recommendation be written addressing this area? Yes

A possible change to the schedule of classes would be to allow for 1 ½ hour sessions early in the morning (9:00am-12:00pm) on Monday and Wednesday rather than the current schedule of one hour classes Monday, Wednesday and Friday. To maximize classroom space, 3 hour classes on Friday could be offered.

D. Retention and Success

1. Retention

1. Given the data, what trends are observed?

Analyzing the data for the past three years, the retention rates within the Political Science courses offered have remained steady. Furthermore, in comparison to the overall division rates and state wide averages for Political Science, our retention rates are fairly comparable.

Overall, Political Science 2, 5, and 10 have slightly better averages regarding retention. The likely explanation for this is that these classes are predominately taken by Political Science majors.

2. Should a recommendation be written addressing this area? Yes

Faculty should continue to be encouraged to attend professional development seminars pertaining to academic retention as well as to enhance the overall academic success of the students.

2. Success Rate

1. What trends are observed?

Analyzing the data for the past three years, the success rates within the Political Science courses offered have remained fairly constant. Furthermore, in comparison to the overall division rates and state wide averages for Political Science, our success rates are fairly comparable.

2. Should a recommendation be written that addresses the data? Yes

Online courses for Political Science 1, 2, and 10 should be offered in attempt to offer alternative opportunities for success. This would help to address the different learning styles of students.

III. Curriculum

A. Course and Content

1. Courses Not Offered

1. Given the data, are there courses that should be inactivated? Yes
Based on budget constraints, both Poli 50 (Special Topics) and Poli 99 (Independent Study) have not been offered in many years.
2. If there are courses not offered in the last three years that you do not wish to inactivate, what reason are there to keep them active?
3. Should a recommendation be written that addresses the data? Yes
Poli 50 and Poli 99 should be inactivated.

2. Course Revisions and Additions

1. Are there course outlines that should be revised? No
All courses are current and have been revised within the last five years. As of Fall 2008, Poli 1 and Poli 3 will need a revision.
2. Are there courses inconsistent with current practice in the field? No
3. Should new courses to be added to the program? Yes
Missing within our current curriculum is a course on political theory. This will need to be developed within the next year. An additional or alternative course would be political philosophy. Finally, courses could be developed as new areas develop in the field of political science. Any of these courses would be incidental as the current program has a solid base of curriculum.
4. Are adjustments necessary to the conditions of enrollment (Prerequisite, Core requisite, Recommended Preparation, and Enrollment Limitations) for a specific course to increase student success?
No
5. If the program offers a degree and/or certificate, list them and indicate when the requirements were last reviewed?

The Political Science Program offers an A.A. degree. The requirements were last reviewed in 2003. This review was triggered by inactivation of History 6, 10A and 10B. No other changes in the degree program have occurred or are anticipated at this present date.
6. Are these degree and/or certificate requirements inconsistent with current practice? No
7. Is there a need to create or delete a degree and/or certificate? No

8. Should a recommendation be written addressing this area? Yes
New courses should be created most immediate being Political Theory.

B. Articulation

1. Are there any courses in your curriculum which are part of a lower division preparation for the major that are not articulated with our major transfer institutions?
No, Poli 8 (CA State & Local Govt.) is transferable to the CSU system but not the UC system.
2. What problems, if any, are there in articulating these course?
3. Should a recommendation be written addressing this area? No

C. Instruction and Assessment

1. Learning Methods

1. What learning methods are incorporated inside and outside the classroom in the program to promote student success?

The faculty within the department use a variety of methods of instruction to reach different learning styles. Such practices include PowerPoint presentations, traditional lecture, lecture notes, collaborative learning, student presentations, service learning, field trips to political institutions and online assignments.

2. Should a recommendation be written that addresses the above response? Yes
Faculty should be committed to continued awareness regarding the changing learning styles to ensure student success.

2. Assessment

1. How do you evaluate the extent to which the learning objectives, skills, and competencies are being met?

A) Courses-Following El Camino standards on Student Learning Outcomes, SLOs are currently being developed for all courses and the evaluation process will begin Spring semester 2008. This will then lead into the final phase which is reflection. When this cycle is completed we will have an accurate assessment to the extent to which the

learning objectives, skills, and competencies are being met. Currently, we assess learning objectives, skills, and competencies using the course objectives in course outlines. Based on the faculty surveys, faculty assess student success through the use of essay exams, writing projects, and research papers.

B)Program-Eventually, the same process will be conducted to evaluate the Political Science Program.

2. How do you use the results of the above evaluation to improve student learning and the quality of the program?

Based on the above data resulting from SLOs, evaluations will be made to improve student learning.

3. Should a recommendation be written addressing this area? Yes

All faculty, both full and part time, should be encouraged to participate in the overall completion of the SLO cycle.

IV. Program Requirements

A. Instructional Support

1. Identify key instructional support areas used by the program.

Libraries & Programs

X	Library	X	Special Resource Center		Basic Skills Study Center	X	Library Orientation
	Music Library	X	Puente Program	X	Honors Transfer Program		Other (please list)
	Learning Resource Center Media Materials Collection		Assessment/Testing Office	X	Counseling		
X	EOP&S/ CalWORKS	X	Transfer Center	X	First Year Experience		
X	Learning Communities		Project Success				

Computer Labs & Tutoring

X	LMTC Compuer Commons		SRC High Technology Center		Other Computer Lab:	X	Writing Center
	CAI MAC Lab		Writing Lab				LRC Tutorial Program
	CAI Windows Lab		Math & Science Lab				Math Tutoring
	TOP Lab		Keyboarding Center				SRC Tutorial Program
	Hawthorne BTC						EOP&S Tutoring
	Inglewood Center						

Faculty Support Services:

	Graphic Arts	X	Copy Center	X	Distance Education		Other
	Media Services AV Production	X	Tech Services Help Desk		Teleconferences		
	Media Services AV Equipment Distribution		Support Staff		Webconferences		
	ECC Vehicles		ECC hosted websites	X	Staff Development		
X	ECC E- mail						

2. Do you have some instructional support needs that are not being met? No

3. Should a recommendation be written addressing this area? No

B. Facilities and Equipment

1. Does the program make effective use of its facilities and equipment?

Yes, we attempt to schedule classes that best fit students schedule and create the greatest efficiency for the campus.

2. Are adequate facilities, equipment and supplies available for the program?

Yes

3. Are the facilities and equipment adequately maintained?

No, the Behavioral and Social Science building is in need of repairs, but this has recently become a moot issue as the building has been scheduled for remodeling in 2009.

4. Should a recommendation be written addressing the data? No

C. Staffing

FTEF (full-time equivalent faculty): # 7

Number of full-time FTEF: 4.2

Number of adjunct FTEF: # 2.8

FT/PT load ratio: 60% / 40%

1. How do the program numbers compare to a like semester (Fall to Fall) three years ago or the previous program review?

Our program numbers have remained the same as three years ago due to the two new full time faculty members hired in 2005.

2. What do the program data indicate? Comment on any trends or unusual data.

Due to the fact that there has been no change over the last three years, no response to the data is necessary.

3. How does the FT/PT ratio benefit or harm the program?

The current FT/PT ratio is acceptable although not particularly beneficial to students. If there is further growth within the program, additional faculty would need to be hired to maintain the integrity of the program.

4. Do you have a faculty mentoring program?

No, we are a smaller department and therefore help each other whenever necessary.

5. How do faculty maintain currency in their field?

Faculty maintain currency in their field by attending conferences, subscribing to relevant publications, and participating in civic engagement activities.

6. Faculty status

Name	Reassigned Time (how much in %)	Currently on leave	Retired in last 2 years	FT hired last 3 years	Anticipated to retire in next 3 years
Lance Widman					
Ellen Antoine					
Laurie Houske				X	
Eduardo Munoz				X	

6a. How does this data impact the program?

With the growth in our program and the data on the current faculty, there is the possible need for additional full time faculty.

6b. Will this data affect the program in the future?

There would be an impact only with future growth in the program.

7. From this information, can you identify present and future staffing needs? Yes

Dependent on future program growth, there could be need for an additional full time faculty member. Monetarily this would amount to one full-time position at approximately \$70,000 plus benefits close to 30%.

8. What is the department doing to address any future staffing needs?

Currently, with only four full time faculty and based on hiring priorities for the college, any additional staffing needs are filled with part time faculty.

9. Should a recommendation be written addressing this area? Yes

Dependent on future program growth, an additional full time faculty member should be hired.

D. Planning

1. Do the program faculty and other personnel have a clear idea of what is happening in the program, where it is headed, what external changes are affecting it, and what changes need to be made in order to enable the program to adapt and continue to be successful?

The Political Science Program is successful and the faculty have a clear understanding of the goals of the program and where we are headed. The department is in a growth mode and continues to offer more sections at flexible times for students. Since the last review we have updated and offered Political Science 6 & 8, which previously were not being offered. A Political Science Club has been developed and is supported by the entire department. It offers benefits to the students in terms of fellowship and offers benefits to entire college community.

2. What data, not currently provided, would be needed in order to improve planning for the development of the program?

None

3. What major external changes or trends do you expect to be of particular relevance to your discipline in the next five years?

Listed below are possible external changes that could be of relevance:

- budgetary changes tend to limit the growth of the department which would lead to the lack of hiring vacated positions
- budgetary changes which could limit the course offerings regardless of demand
- increases in student demand could be created based on job training needs
- changes in colleges/universities in the surrounding area could increase demand

4. What will the implications of these changes or trends be for the program and how will the program need to respond

If there is dramatic increase in demand, the department would have to respond by increasing the number of course offerings to meet student need.

5. Based upon the information above, how would you like the program to evolve within the next five years?

The Political Science Program would like to evolve over the following five years as follows:

We would like to continue to see steady growth which helps our program and translates into more revenue for the college through FTES.

We would like to broaden the course offerings to reflect changes in field as they become necessary.

Based on faculty survey results, the department would like to see more funding allocated to resources in the library related to political science.

6. Should a recommendation be written addressing the data? No

V. Conclusion

1. Prioritized Recommendations

- A possible change to the schedule of classes is to allow for 1 ½ hour sessions early in the morning (9:00am-12:00pm) on Monday and Wednesday rather than the current schedule of one hour classes Monday, Wednesday and Friday. To maximize classroom space, 3 hour classes on Friday could be offered.
- Online courses for Political Science 1, 2, and 10 should be regularly offered in an attempt to create alternative opportunities for student success. This would help to address the different learning styles of students as well as allowing the program to continue to support the growth of distance education courses.
- New courses should be created most immediate being Political Theory.
- Dependent on future program growth, an additional full time faculty member should be hired. As per stated in the section on “staffing”, the need for a new full-time faculty member would amount to approximately \$70,000 plus benefits close to 30%.
- Poli 50 and Poli 99 should be inactivated.
- Faculty should continue to be encouraged to attend professional development seminars pertaining to academic retention which will serve to enhance the overall academic success of the students.
- Faculty should be committed to continued awareness regarding the changing learning methods to ensure student success.
- All faculty, both full and part time, should be encouraged to participate in the overall completion of the SLO cycle.

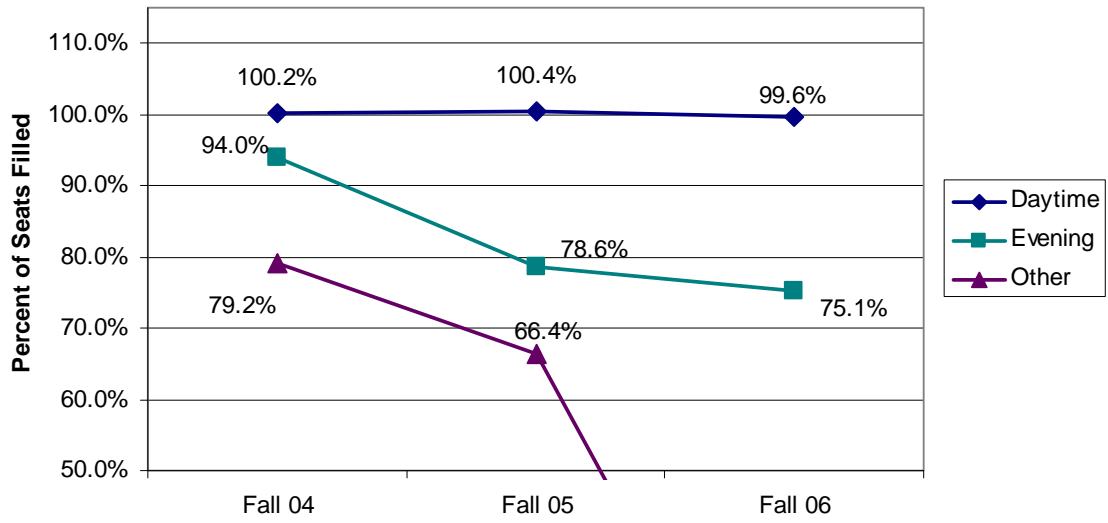
2. Major needs

The major need for the program is repairs to the Behavioral and Social Science building but this is really a moot issue due to the upcoming scheduled repairs for the building.

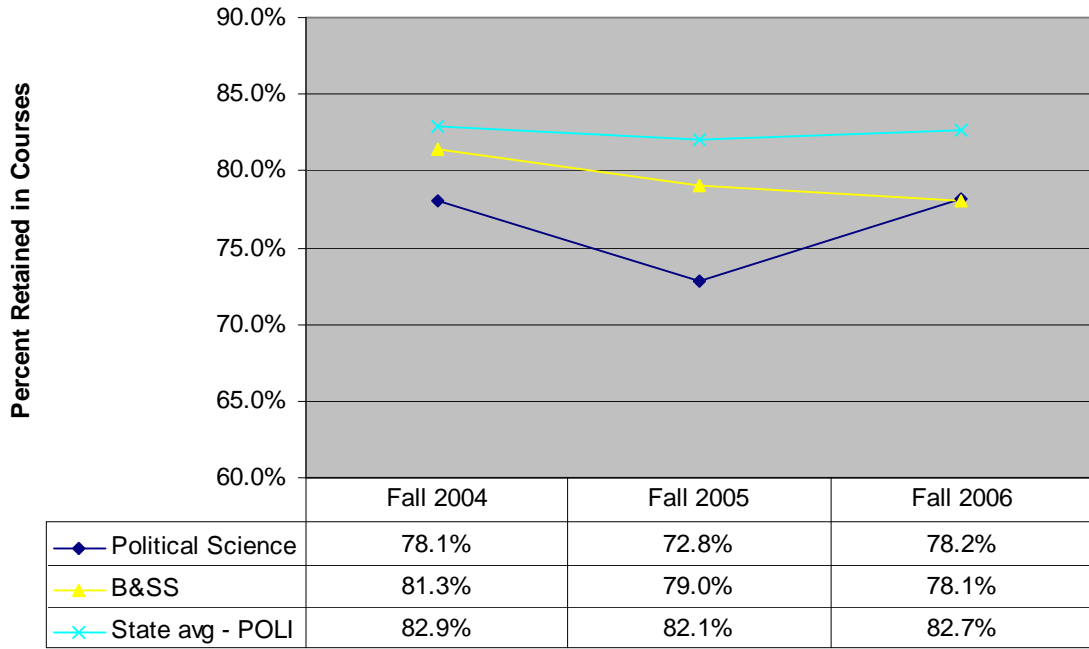
3. Strategies

The Department is committed to making efforts to achieve these recommendations. Adding classes and offering more courses within the distance education program, can be implemented within the next 1-2 academic years depending on funding. Other recommendations could only be implemented with administration support. The faculty in the department are a close group and willing work together on most projects. We encourage a continued ongoing dialogue with our division and campus administrators to achieve our goals.

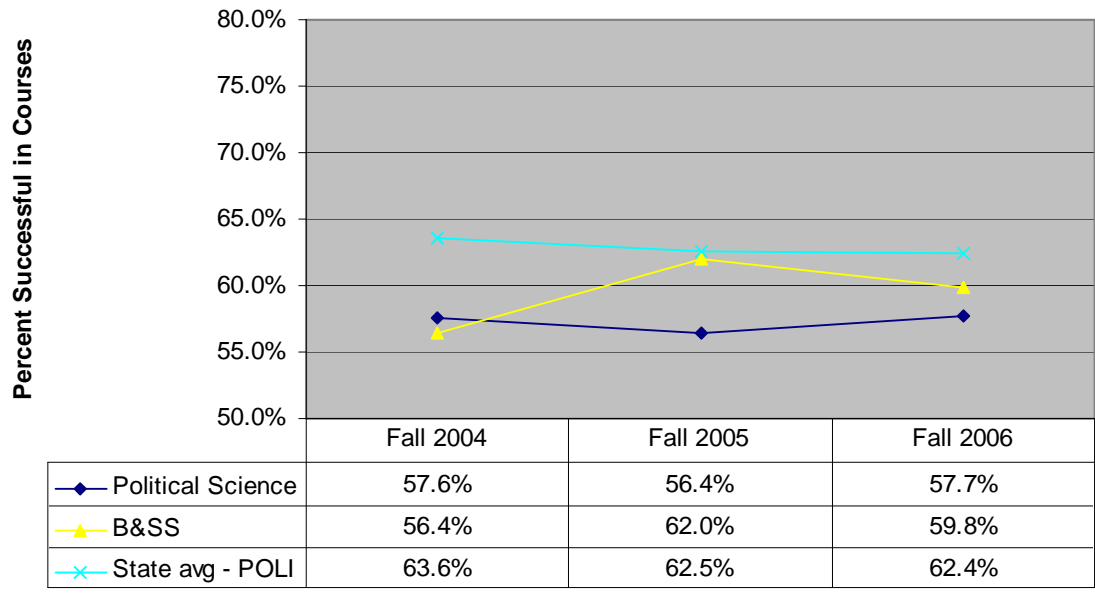
Course Section Fill Rates by Time of Class Political Science



Political Science Retention Rates Fall 2004 to Fall 2006



Political Science Success Rates Fall 2004 to Fall 2006



**Female and Male Enrolled Students
Fall 2006**

