

Action Plan for A Six-Year Program Review Cycle Political Science – 2019-2024

All departments are required to submit a succinct written Action Plan (max. 3 pages) to the Provost and the Dean for Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness within three months of the site visit. Please address the applicable areas of your program improvement and arrange them according to their priority.

	A brief description of each proposed change	A brief rationale and evidence that support the proposed change	Six-year timeline for the proposed changes and actions	Who is in charge if known
1	Possible adjustments in faculty priorities or responsibilities	<i>Hire new faculty member to replace Susan Penksa.</i>	<i>Hire fall 2019 to start fall 2020</i>	Jesse & Tom
		<i>Hire adjuncts as necessary to supplement other service commitments</i>	<i>ongoing</i>	Chair (Jesse)
2	Curriculum / program	<p><i>Review curriculum to reflect new hire (focusing on “key questions”), including faculty strengths, student needs, and growing the major.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Does our curriculum satisfy student interest?</i> • <i>Are there important gaps in our curriculum?</i> • <i>Should we feature narrow-topic course offerings, or broader, more general courses?</i> • <i>Should we have a more fixed core curriculum or more flexible offerings based on interest?</i> • <i>POL-040 curriculum: how quantitative vs. research-and-writing should it be?</i> • <i>What is the role/future of major “tracks”?</i> 	<i>Begin review 2020-21; complete in 2022-23</i>	Tom, Jesse, & ?

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What sort of research model do we want to prepare students for: professional/graduate school model or something revised for undergraduate context / lifetime learning as non-specialists?</i> • <i>Should major internships take place primarily during the summer or primarily during the regular semester?</i> • <i>What sorts of major substitutions should we regularly make (on-campus programs, off-campus programs, non-political science, etc.)?</i> 		
		<i>Revise curriculum to reflect findings of the review process.</i>	2020-2023	
		<i>Add "Four Year Template Plan" to the department website to aid students in scheduling / planning their program</i>	Spring 2020	
3	Initiatives to improve teaching and learning	<i>Offer summer internship tuition scholarships through CAD to increase accessibility to students</i>	Began summer 2019; ongoing	Tom
		<i>Offer CAD-Sponsored Campus-wide Speaker Series, sponsoring at least two lectures per year</i>	Began 2018-19; ongoing	Tom
		<i>Strengthen career advising through a pilot "Careers in Political Science" event.</i>	Spring 2020	Chair / Full-time Faculty
4	Learning outcomes that the department will assess in the subsequent years	<i>Active Social Engagement Written Communication Critically Trained Active Social Engagement</i>	2019-2020 2020-2021 2021-2022 2022-2023	Tom

5	Reallocation or acquisition of resources that would be necessary or helpful in the pursuit of these goals	<i>Review annual budget and expenditures to assess the need for increase / adjustments</i>	<i>2020-21</i>	Chair/Full-time faculty
6	Other important changes	<i>Develop Departmental Cohesion / shape ethos through increased social events.</i>	<i>Begin 2019; ongoing</i>	Chair/Full-time faculty
		<i>Use CAD scholarships to recruit students to the department</i>	<i>Begin 2019; ongoing</i>	Tom
		<i>Assess faculty load inside and outside of the department to seek balance and sustainability.</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	Jesse & Tom