PALO VERDE COLLEGE

Program Review

History and Political Science

Presented by Kevin Eoff
2011-2012

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

History/Political Science

1. **Program Strengths:**

    a. Discipline faculty members are willing to teach in various modes and times, including face-to-face, ITV, correspondence and online to address student learning needs.

    b. Demonstrated commitment to improving student success and implementing student learning outcomes in conjunction with campus-wide efforts.

2. **Program Weaknesses:**

    As mentioned in the 2006 program review report, there is an ongoing need for an additional full-time instructor to be able to offer more courses in the program.

3. **Recommendations for Program Improvement:**

    a. As budget allows, consider hiring additional faculty member.

    b. Recommendations for program improvement also have campus-wide application: better access to the Bridge, student email accounts, sporadic connection difficulties between Blythe and Needles in ITV sections.

4. **Committee Determination:**

    Report is accepted and may proceed to the next step in the process.

Executive Summary approved by the Program Review Committee, May 1, 2012

Department of History and Political Science
Program Review 2012

Program Evaluation Summary To be completed by the Program Review Committee members	The Program Review Committee shall, after reviewing each program review report, prepare a Program Evaluation Summary, which shall be made a part of the program review report and shall address these items: 1. Program Strengths: 2. Program Weaknesses: 3. Recommendations for Program Improvement: 4. Committee Determination: a. Report is accepted and may proceed to the next step in the process. b. Report is returned to the department for further work, as follows:
1. Support of the College Mission	A. State the purpose of program. *These courses help develop skills and strategies to be successful in the college environment and serve to introduce students to these areas of study.* ***History and Political Science courses*** *fulfill general education requirements/electives, and are also major areas of study for the Associate of Arts degree.* B. Describe how the program supports the overall mission of the College as adopted by the Board of Trustees. *The departments of History and Political Science strive to provide an exemplary learning environment that promotes student success through course completion, models and promotes lifelong learning, and encourages community involvement and development.* C. Describe the unique institutional goal the program achieves. *The department serves to provide transferable course requirements and/or electives, as well as Associate level degree requirements.*
2 Accomplishments in Achieving Goals Outlined in the Previous Program Review	A. Describe progress in achieving goals outlined in the previous program review, providing evidence documenting such achievements. *English 99 eligibility has been established as a prerequisite for all history and political science courses.* B. Explain modifications of goals outlined in the previous program review, providing evidence documenting such modifications. *The previous program review described a need for more instructors, and funds for professional development and college-sponsored events. Due to budgetary constraints, these goals cannot be achieved at this time.*
3. Populations Served	A. Describe the populations served by the program, including special populations. *In addition to the traditional face-to-face student, other populations served include inmate students, local correspondence and online students, students from Needles via ITV, DSPS, and EOPS students.* B. Describe other populations that should be served by the program, and describe plans to serve them in the future.

	The division would like to increase the availability of online courses, in order to better serve students with issues related to transportation and/or distance as well as attract students outside our immediate service area.
4. Curriculum History	List the courses constituting the program. Of the courses constituting the program, list those courses that have not been successfully offered at least once during the preceding six (6) semesters. Explain why such courses were not successfully offered. Provide a strategy for improving their success, or explain why they should not be removed from the program. HIS 080: Supplemental Instruction for History, Social Science, Political Science, and Anthropology HIS 110: World Civilization I HIS 115: Current Events HIS 120: World Civilization II HIS 125: California History HIS 130: American History I HIS 140: American History II HIS 150: History of Women in America***** HIS 160: The History of Ancient Greece***** HIS 210: The Contemporary Middle East and Islam***** HIS 215: The West in American History***** HIS 220: Ancient Egypt***** HIS 225: Chicano Studies***** HIS 230 History of Mexico***** HIS 245 History of the American Indian***** HIS 280: Selected Topics in History***** HIS 290: Selected Studies in History***** POS 101: Introduction to Political Science POS 145: American Political Institutions POS 280: Selected Topics in Political Science***** POS 285: International Relations***** POS 290: Selected Studies in Political Science***** ******These courses were not successfully offered at least once during the preceding six (6) semesters. Having one full time instructor limits the amounts of courses offered. As such, the full time Instructor has scaled back to the core courses of HIS 130, HIS 140 and POS 145. Adjuncts have offered HIS 110, HIS 120, HIS 115 and HIS 125. HIS 150, 160, 210, 215, 220, 225, 230, and 245 are scheduled to be placed on inactive status for 2012-2013.*
5. Course Scheduling and Availability	Describe how effectively the scheduling process of classes in the program: A. Optimizes class availability for day students, evening students and distance education students. *Given the limited resources, the full time Instructor has offered the core courses during the day, evening, via ITV, Distance Education and Online on a rotating basis.* B. Optimizes student learning. *Student learning is optimized by offering courses at various times and modalities, by implementing the course management system, and by utilizing Starboard technology.*

6. Student Learning Outcomes	A. Describe the process by which the program identifies measures and evaluates student learning outcomes at the course, program and degree levels, and provide evidence that this process is being followed. *At the course level, student learning outcomes, instructional strategies, and assessment measures are identified on each course outline of record and on every course syllabus. At program and degree levels, the following SLOs have been agreed upon:* *1) Describe and evaluate critically the role and significance of history, social and behavioral sciences in the community and the world* *2) Exhibit multiple skills including critical thinking, written and oral communication, and problem solving* *3) Demonstrate research competency (examples may include assignments that require research of scholarly sources and submission in a academic format such as MLA)* B. Describe the process by which program improvements are made, and provide evidence that this process is being followed. *The department maintains course outline updates, as well as identifying courses to be moved to inactive status. This is evidenced by Curriculum Committee minutes and catalog changes.*
7. Program and Course Coverage	A. Describe how effectively courses in the program are covered by: 1) Full-time faculty; 2) Part-time (adjunct) faculty *Some courses were not successfully offered at least once during the preceding six (6) semesters. Having one full time instructor limits the amounts of courses offered. As such, the full time Instructor has scaled back to the core courses of HIS 130, HIS 140 and POS 145. Adjuncts have offered HIS 110, HIS 120, HIS 115 and HIS 125. HIS 150, 160, 210, 215, 220, 225, 230, and 245 are scheduled to be placed on inactive status for 2012-2013.* B. Describe ongoing or projected deficiencies in faculty coverage of courses in the program. *As mentioned in previous Program Review, there is an ongoing need for an additional full time Instructor to expand the courses offered.* C. Describe plans to improve program and course coverage, if applicable. *NA due to current restrictions.*
8. Professional Development	A. Describe specific professional development activities in which faculty members in the program participate, and explain how such activities benefit or enhance the program and support and facilitate student learning outcomes. *Due to budgetary constraints, professional development activities have been limited to flex day trainings and consultation with colleagues as well as personal enrichment activities taken on by individual instructors.* B. Describe areas of unmet professional development needs among faculty in the program, if applicable, and outline plans to address those needs. *This department recognizes the need for professional development activities; however, the current financial situation precludes participation in off-site training opportunities unless taken on by individual members.*

9. Student Performance and Completion

A. Display and comment on semester-by-semester course completions in the program over the preceding six (6) semesters. (Course completion rate = A, B, C or CR divided by A, B, C, D, F, CR, NC, W, MW, IP)

	Fall 08	Spr 09	Fall 09	Spr 10	Fall 10	Spr 11
HIS 110						
A,B,C,P	22		15		13	
A,B,C,P…W	35		32		27	
% Success	62.9%		46.9%		48.1%	
HIS 115						
A,B,C,P	45	17	32	28	16	14
A,B,C,P…W	73	43	71	75	54	50
% Success	61.6%	39.5%	45.1%	37.3%	29.6%	28.0%
HIS 120						
A,B,C,P		17		9		7
A,B,C,P…W		22		12		13
% Success		77.3%		75.0%		53.8%
HIS 125						
A,B,C,P		11	16	22	9	15
A,B,C,P…W		27	21	38	19	26
% Success		40.7%	76.2%	57.9%	47.4%	57.7%
HIS 130						
A,B,C,P	26		35	53	31	31
A,B,C,P…W	50		56	80	47	50
% Success	52.0%		62.5%	66.3%	66.0%	62.0%
HIS 140						
A,B,C,P		39	29	14	31	19
A,B,C,P…W		62	38	20	47	25
% Success		62.9%	76.3%	70.0%	66.0%	76.0%

**Success is defined as earning a grade of A,B,C or P. Success rate is calculated as follows: A,B,C,P divided by A,B,C,D,F,I,NP,P,W.*

	Fall 08	Spr 09	Fall 09	Spr 10	Fall 10	Spr 11
POS 145						
A,B,C,P	34	22	41	39	55	30
A,B,C,P…W	54	40	59	50	77	37

% Success	63.0%	55.0%	69.5%	78.0%	71.4%	81.1%

*Success is defined as earning a grade of A,B,C or P. Success rate is calculated as follows: A,B,C,P divided by A,B,C,D,F,I,NP,P,W.

HIS 110, HIS 115, HIS 120 and HIS 125 have only been offered via Distance Education by adjunct Instructors. POS 145, HIS 130 and HIS 140 were offered via Distance Education, Online, face to face and Online by full time Instructor.

Factors that may account for success rate variances may include: Explain how these factors affect success good/bad.

Instructor contact with Distance Education students can have a positive or negative impact on student success based on the frequency and timeliness of contacts.

Some students on financial aid do not complete courses after final disbursements which can affect course completion rates.

Many students who have sporadic course interaction fail to drop the course which has a negative effect on course completion rates.

Positive attendance rates usually correlates into positive success rate outcomes.

B. Display and comment on annual degree or certificate completions, if applicable, over the preceding three (3) academic years. NA

10. Enrollment and Financial Trends

A. Display and comment on semester-by-semester enrollments in program courses over the preceding six (6) semesters.

	Fall 08	Spr 09	Fall 09	Spr 10	Fall 10	Spr 11
HIS 110-1	15		13		27	
HIS 110-2	20		19			
HIS 110-3						
HIS 115-1	25	22	24	29	26	24
HIS 115-2	22	21	23	19	28	26
HIS 115-3	26		24	27		
HIS 120-1		7		12		13
HIS 120-2		15				
HIS 120-3						
HIS 125-1		27	21	12	19	26
HIS 125-2				26		
HIS 125-3						
HIS 130-1	23		24	29	29	23
HIS 130-2	27		32	29	18	27
HIS 130-3				22		
HIS 140-1		14	9	12	27	11
HIS 140-2		14	29	8	20	14
HIS 140-3		29				
HIS 140-4		5				

	Fall 08	Spr 09	Fall 09	Spr 10	Fall 10	Spr 11
POS 145-1	11	11	17	22	27	21
POS 145-2	24	29	27	28	27	16
POS 145-3	19		15		23	

Enrollment trends:

Adjunct instruction can be sporadic based on the availability of qualified Instructors.
HIS 110 has been offered in Fall semesters, HIS 120 in spring semesters via Distance Ed..
HIS 115 and HIS 125 is usually offered each semester via Distance Ed.
…HIS 130, HIS 140 and POS 145 are offered every semester via face to face(and ITV), Correspondence Ed. and on a rotating Online basis.

Spring Semester enrollments are typically lower than Fall, with the implementation of Online courses, student needs, and budgetary issues, the assessment of multiple sections is an ongoing process.

B. Display and comment on annual program expenditures over the preceding three years, as to: supplies, contracts, capital outlay and other non-salary expenses.

Program expenditures have been limited. Supplies (etc) have been reduced to minimal levels. A full time salary (1 person) has been limited to step increases.

2006-2007	Salaries	Benefits	Supplies	Operating Expenses	Capital	TOTAL
History	$ 76,874.61	$ 18,487.86	$ 370.60	$ 653.00	$ -	$ 96,386.07
Political Science	$ 26,760.93	$ 5,506.73	$ 330.77	$ 334.13	$ -	$ 32,932.56

2007-2008	Salaries	Benefits	Supplies	Operating Expenses	Capital	TOTAL
History	$ 110,393.22	$ 23,337.70	$ 167.19	$ 85.00	$ -	$ 133,983.11
Political Science	$ 24,386.44	$ 5,469.12	$ 346.56	$ -	$ -	$ 30,202.12

2008-2009	Salaries	Benefits	Supplies	Operating Expenses	Capital	TOTAL
History	$ 79,742.08	$ 20,278.87	$ 226.21	$ -	$ -	$ 100,247.16
Political Science	$ 22,562.48	$ 5,368.84	$ 184.70	$ -	$ -	$ 28,116.02

2009-2010	Salaries	Benefits	Supplies	Operating Expenses	Capital	TOTAL
History	$ 83,454.48	$ 21,403.02	$ 8.64	$ -	$ -	$ 104,866.14
Political Science	$ 34,688.34	$ 5,436.59	$ 34.92	$ -	$ -	$ 40,159.85

2010-2011	Salaries	Benefits	Supplies	Operating Expenses	Capital	TOTAL
History	$ 89,766.20	$ 21,870.39	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 111,636.59
Political Science	$ 14,430.80	$ 4,949.15	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 19,379.95

11. Facilities and Equipment

A. Are current facilities, such as classrooms, offices and equipment, adequate to support the program? Explain.

Yes.

B. Is available dedicated space adequate to support the program? Explain.

Yes.

C. Is available equipment adequate to support the program? Explain.

Yes. Faculties have experienced problems related to technology related to the Course Management System from time to time. Students have difficulty logging in to access The Bridge and the lack of a campus wide email program for students has been discussed for many years with no implementation to date. The biggest problem area relates to televised courses with sporadic difficulties between Blythe-Needles regarding full connectivity.

D. Describe plans for future changes in support facilities or equipment.
A full time on site support individual dedicated to ITV and the course management system may alleviate some of the ongoing issues.

12. Strengths and Weaknesses

A. List and comment on the major strengths of the program.

1. The department offers a wide variety of courses given available personnel.
2. Faculty members are knowledgeable and experienced.
3. Faculty members are committed to academic integrity.
4. Multiple modalities of instruction are used throughout the department in order to optimize student learning.

B. List and comment on the major weaknesses of the program.

1. The departments of History and Political Science are overly reliant on adjunct faculty, and could utilize another full-time Instructor. The current economic climate does not look favorable for this to be accomplished in the near future; hence a scaling back of elective type courses in favor of the core

	class offerings. *2. Student success needs to be closely monitored and strategies developed to promote higher student success rates.*
13. Plans to Remedy Weaknesses	Identify specific steps to correct identified weaknesses and provide the timeline by which they are to be corrected. *In concert with Division and Academic Senate, guidelines for improving Student Success should be addressed campus wide, which will have a positive impact on the departments of History and Political Science. Ongoing implementation of student learning objectives and the assessment of data will give us an indication of as to what needs are to be addressed for continued success rate increases.*
14. Plans to Advance the Program	Describe other plans that will advance the program. *The department will continue to review courses to ensure they are current, and being successfully offered. We will continue to seek additional full-time faculty members to reduce the disproportionate number of adjunct faculty in our division.*