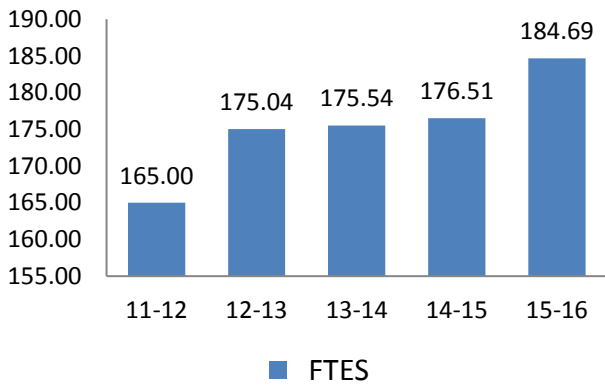
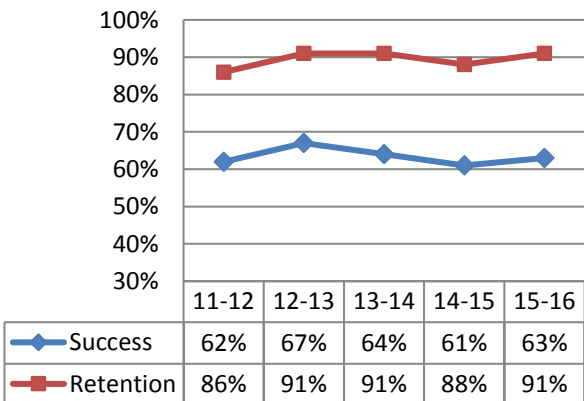


POLITICAL SCIENCE — 2015-2016



	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
Duplicated Enrollment	1,800	1,631	1,720	1,674	1,726	1,791
FTEF	9.20	8.60	8.40	8.58	9.71	11.31
WSCH per FTEF	572	576	625	614	546	490



	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
Sections	48	45	45	45	51	59
% of online enrollment	19%	20%	22%	20%	20%	19%
Degrees awarded	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	
Certificates awarded	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Description:

Political Science is the systematic study of the processes that precede and may eventuate in binding decisions regarding the distribution of values in the body politic. In a democracy, the processes may include debates, compromises, votes, mobilization of popular support, and litigation. These processes may take place in various institutions and different settings; and the values sought after and allocated may be tangible or intangible. Proceeding from the empirical, Political Science employs both quantitative and qualitative research methods to try and understand these processes.

This Department offers an AA-T degree which simultaneously allows a student to earn an Associate of Arts degree and to transfer to UC and CSU as a junior in a Political Science program. Political Science courses help to prepare students for careers in government (including the foreign service, the intelligence services, and the military), law, journalism, business, teaching, and community organizing.

Assessment:

- Student enrollment grew by 4.6% over the 14-15 enrollment level.
- Efficiency fell by 11.4%, from 546 (14-15) to 490 (15-16). This drop is both surprising and disturbing. I plan to speak with Dr. James Smith and other colleagues to see what we can do to raise efficiency.
- Success rate witnessed a slight increase, from 61% in the 14-15 cycle to 63%. Even though we made a slight gain, we want to raise this number. I want to speak to my colleagues in the Department to be aware of this fact, and see what to do.
- Our retention rate remains resiliently high at 91%. It grew a notch, from 88% in 14-15 to 91% in 15-16.
- We were able to offer 59 sections in 15-16, a 17.6% increase over the 14-15 offering of 51. This was made possible in part by our willingness to collaborate with other programs and offer courses to their students. For example, we offered courses through the First Year Experience program and with the Middle College High School initiative.
- Our online classes saw a 1% dip in 15-16, from 20% in 14-15 to 19%. This slight decrease can be explained by the fact that we offered more regular (non-online courses) in 15-16 than in the previous cycle.

Department Goals:

- One of the short term goals of our Department is to create an Honors course, attach it to POLIT 138 (Student Leadership on Campus), and deliver it online (hybrid).
- Another short term goal is to create an Honors course, attach it to POLIT 139 (Student Leadership in the broader community), and deliver it online (hybrid).
- Our short to medium term goal is to raise student enrollment in both of these Service Learning courses.
- One of our ongoing goals is to continue to raise awareness of our AA-T degree and increase the number of students who major in Political Science. Also, we will

POLITICAL SCIENCE — 2015-2016

continue to look for ways to create new courses. In this respect, we still have our eyes on creating transferable courses in Constitutional Law (parts 1 & 2) as we indicated in the last cycle (14-15).

- We awarded 2 degrees in the last cycle. We are not sure what the figure is in the 15-16 cycle. I plan to speak with Dr. James Smith to clarify why the figure for 15-16 is not in the chart.

Challenges & Opportunities:

- Raising the number of students who major in Political Science remains a challenge. The higher the number of Political Science majors we have, the higher is the likelihood that we will create new courses.
- Similarly, it has been a real challenge achieving a decent enrollment in our Service Learning classes, POLIT 138 and POLIT 139. We will speak more to this issue in the Action Plan segment below.
- We also face the challenge of finding appropriate agencies in the broader community who will work with us and provide some internship for our students in POLIT 139. More on this later in the Action Plan below.
- As for opportunities, we were able to hire a full-time instructor, Dr. Lisa Henkle, to fill the position created by the retirement of Professor Edward Millican. With her on board, we can offer more online classes; we now have 4 of our faculty—in a Department of 9—who can teach online classes.
- We were also able to launch a Model United Nations club this past summer on June 15, 2016. The event was very well attended, and the club received the recognition of the Associated Student Government. We hope there will be a sustained student enthusiasm to mature, grow, and sustain the club. It is part of creating more activities and opportunities for Political Science majors, and the student body in general.

Action Plan:

- To increase enrollment in the Service Learning courses (POLIT 138 and POLIT 139), I have launched an online component for both of these classes; and I am also working with the Curriculum Committee to launch both of these courses as Honors courses. I have asked Melinda Moneymaker, and she has agreed, to help us explore ways with the agencies she currently works with—to see if they could take some of our POLIT 139 students. I am also personally exploring other channels as well.
- To raise the percentage of online classes we offer I have created an additional online section for the spring 2017 semester.
- Regarding efficiency, as I indicated above, I will be consulting with Dr. Smith and other colleagues to see

POLITICAL SCIENCE — 2015-2016

what strategy we need to pursue to improve our numbers.

- With respect to increasing the number of Political Science majors, I will continue to work with our academics counselors to keep informing students about our AA-T degree program. Similarly, our instructors will be sharing with our students the career opportunities that a major in Political Science can afford them.