

Department Plan
Long Beach City College
Dept - Social Science

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Mission: The mission of the Social Sciences department is to provide students with broad knowledge and everyday applications of the historical, cultural, scientific and philosophical foundations of our society and understanding of human social institutions and interpersonal behavior. Each discipline presents a different perspective on individual, interpersonal and sociocultural experience.

Description: This field of concentration provides the student with general education in the principles, concepts, and methodologies of various disciplines (Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Philosophy, Psychology and Sociology). In addition these courses may partly satisfy general education and major requirements for a baccalaureate degree.

This Associate Degree will prepare students for career advancement and will also facilitate transfer in a related major.

Fields of concentration:

Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology

Summary of Access, Productivity & Effectiveness: As a department we have achieved success rates between 54-56%; retention rates between 68-70% and completion rates between 60-62% over the past 3 academic years (2005 to 2008). The average GPA has been very stable varying between 2.47-2.49. We are also investigating the implementation of recommended preparatory classes and/or prerequisites for classes with high attrition and large waiting lists.

Internal Conditions (see Help for list): Presently planning to hire a new tenure-track Economics professor. We are seeking to increase our part-time pool in most disciplines.

External Condition- N/A

Regulatory/Legislative

Changes:

External Condition- Grants Available: Being investigated at this time.

External Condition- Program Review upgrade is being pursued because of previous accreditation recommendations.

Accreditation

Recommendations:

External Condition- N/A

Advisory Committee Input:

External Condition- N/A

Community

Outreach/Partnership:

External Condition- Industry & Labor Market Trends: Increased unemployment and cuts in course offerings at the CSUs leading to possible greater enrollment in our school (and other CCs).

External Conditions- Other : Budget crisis/Limited budget available for CA community Colleges.

Faculty & Staff : Full time faculty: 14 full time faculty (2 Anthropology; 1 Economics; 2 Geography; 3 Philosophy; 3 Psychology; 3 Sociology)

Part time faculty: The number of adjunct faculty employed by our department varies by term and need. We have over 35 active adjuncts who work part or all of each academic year.

Support staff: Including Dean's office staff we have 3 full time administrative assistants and occasional part-time clerical support.

Student workers: None at this time due to budget cuts.

Names & Titles of Program Review Participants: Chris Carter, Associate Professor of Geography

Nancy Melucci, Associate Professor of Psychology, Department Head

Debbie Whittaker, Associate Professor of Philosophy

Fred Beebe, Associate Professor of Economics

2009-2010 Accomplishments: 1) SLO coordinator in place and SLO assessment for selected courses has been started.

2) Completed move of department and equipment successfully to the new South Quad/T building.

3) Member of Full-Time Sociology Faculty won an grant for research in education and government.

4) Maintaining a strong and effective communication with local transfer institutions especially CSULB.

Goal: Maintain and increase student involvement in Social Science Department activities

There are many chartered clubs related to our department that have been inactive. There have also been new ideas for clubs presented by faculty. Encourage both full-time and adjunct faculty to come forward to help revive or start these clubs and act as their advisors.

Year: 2011 - 2012

Start Date: 08/12/2011

Goal Status: NEW

Goal Priority: Medium

Rationale: Increasing Social Sciences club presence would have a positive effect on enrollment in our courses and increase interest in majoring in the six disciplines.

Strategies: Send a list of clubs (current, inactive or possible new ones) to all faculty and invite them to start up new clubs of interest or re-activate former clubs. Research clubs that are offered at other two and four year schools to see if they can be created here at Long Beach City College under the auspices of the Social Sciences Department.

Responsible Parties: Nancy J. Melucci, Fred Beebe

Campus supported by this goal: Both

Specify if goal is for Department/ Program

department or sub-area:

Other Area impacted by this goal: Institutional Effectiveness

goal:

Level of Support Needed: Department

Goal: Develop new CSU transferable courses and transfer degrees

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Year: 2011 - 2012

Start Date: 09/30/2011

End Date: 09/30/2012

Goal Status: In Progress

Goal Priority: Medium

Rationale: Expand course offerings to reflect faculty specialization. Facilitate transfer to CSU and UC.

Strategies: 1. Develop new courses in Economics, Psychology and other disciplines
2. Complete development of transfer degrees in Social Science disciplines.
3. Create flyers to post about the transfer degrees (i.e. Sociology & Psychology) as well electronic communication with our students

Responsible Parties: Socail Science faculty

Campus supported by this goal: Both

goal:

Specify if goal is for Department/ Program

department or sub-area:

Level of Support Needed: Department

Goal: Hire new faculty

Hire faculty as needed for Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy, and Anthropology.

Year: 2011 - 2012

Start Date: 09/30/2011

End Date: 09/30/2014

Goal Status: In Progress

Goal Priority: Medium

Rationale: Hire full time faculty to replace current faculty as they leave the college.

Strategies: Hire full time faculty

Responsible Parties: Socail Science faculty

Campus supported by this goal: Both

goal:

Specify if goal is for Department/ Program

department or sub-area:

Level of Support Needed: School or VP

Goal: Evaluate the need for prerequisites in Social Sciences classes.

Evaluate the need for prerequisites in Social Sciences classes.

Year: 2011 - 2012

Start Date: 09/30/2011

End Date: 09/30/2012

Goal Status: In Progress

Goal Priority: Medium

Rationale: Low completion rates for some classes may indicate that students are under-prepared for many Social Science classes. Prerequisites may therefore be required.

Strategies: Compare pass rates in different Social Science classes of students who have completed English 105 or higher, vs. those who have not completed English 105 or higher.

Responsible Parties: Social Science faculty

Campus supported by this goal: Both

Specify if goal is for

department or sub-area: Department/ Program

Level of Support Needed: School or VP