

Addendum to the APC proposal to close POL

10/3/2021

In response to the questions posed by APC:

a) More information about enrollment and graduation numbers

Political Science Information for APC

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Political Science Major	20	31	28	25	29	31
Political Science Minor	2	2	2	6	8	4
Law Studies Minor				1	3	2
Political Leadership & Engagement Minor				0	0	0
Political Science graduates	na	Na	5	9	7	8

b) More details about the study that was done

Here are points related to the decision:

- There was a major program revision and since that time there has been no significant increase in majors.
- There was no clear argument presented on what makes political science at Marian distinctive when compared to competitors.
- Program assessment is not clearly aligned with institutional learning outcomes.
- Assessment data not explicitly used to assist in program improvement process.
- The department admits to being passive about student recruitment.
- No plan on how to increase retention. No coordinated effort on the part of the department.
- Student outcomes not tracked by department.
- Report that was submitted was less than complete.

c) Why is Political Science not a viable program anymore?

As there is only one remaining faculty member in the program, with no intention to create additional faculty lines, the program is no longer viable. The department currently has no clear strategic

plan for the development of the program and that has been requested of them over a period of some years.

d) What impact will there be on the institution if this program is cancelled?

This program, if cancelled, will be taught out over the next three years. The impact on the enrollment of the institution will be minimized through increased enrollment in other applied social science programs. There is minimal expected fiscal impact.

e) How was communication handled with faculty about this matter.

The remaining faculty member has met with the Provost individually to discuss this matter, in advance of the submission to APC as well as following. This discussion is ongoing.

f) Political Science and cross-listed classes that would be affected.

There is one cross-listed course between POL and GLS. The GLS program director would like to keep the course, and can create paperwork to alter the course to have only the GLS prefix, or to switch the lead department and so have the GLS prefix as the parent department and the POL prefix as the child prefix. This is not an urgent issue, as the decision to cancel the program must first be determined, and the subsequent teach-out of the program must then be completed. This allows for time for this course transition to be processed appropriately.

g) The signature page has been updated.