

## PROGRAM REVIEW STATUS REPORT

### PROGRAM: LIBERAL ARTS: POLITICAL SCIENCE OPTION

Date last updated: February 28, 2012

Update provided by: Stephen E. Slaner, Chair, Global Studies Department

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT, IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITIES, AND RESOURCE REQUESTS		STATUS OF ACTIVITIES AND REQUESTS	
DATE RECORDED	AREAS, ACTIVITIES, AND REQUESTS	DATE OF STATUS REPORT	STATUS
3-11	Course offerings need to be expanded by revitalizing inactive courses and developing more higher-level (200) courses. Opportunities for service learning within the framework of political science courses need to be expanded, and the issue of fitting internships or co-ops into a student's schedule needs to be addressed.	2-12	Modified: since one existing course (GOV 102) had to be reduced from every semester to once a year, it appears that the market for additional courses is not there. See #4 below. Developing and supervising co-ops would require hiring new personnel.
3-11	Curricular requirements need to be updated to allow students to take philosophy as part of their liberal arts electives.	2-12	In process: working with Allan Hislop to change curriculum effective Spring 2013; consulting with department.
3-11	A working definition of "global awareness" needs to be formulated, accompanied by a discussion as to which courses can include this component as part of their overall structure.	2-12	Accomplished: "global awareness" criteria incorporated into GOV 102 (Introduction to Political Science) for course description and learning outcomes.
3-11	The program would be strengthened by developing more effective ways of tracking graduates after they leave NECC for other institutions or careers. We also need to explore why there are relatively few graduates and why students drop out of the program. An action plan needs to be drawn up to explore this issue.	2-12	In process: drawing up questionnaire to give to political science majors. Unclear as to whether students can be tracked after they graduate, due to anticipated non-participation with survey and potential subject bias by respondents.
3-11	The program would benefit greatly from an additional full-time faculty member.	2-12	Modified: new full-time history faculty member adds to department collegiality.
3-11	Students need to be better prepared to write essays and research papers, and to understand what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.	2-12	In process: GOV 101 (American Gov't & Politics) + ENG 101 Learning Community in the works for 2013.