

6. To comprehend the origins and evolution of U.S. and Texas political systems, with a focus on the growth of political institutions, the constitutions of the U.S. and Texas, federalism, civil liberties, and civil and human rights.

POL – Students in sections of POL 261 will be given a 15 item pre-test at the beginning of the semester and a 15 item post-test at the end of the semester that will assess student knowledge in this area. This data will be collected and analyzed to measure student progress. We anticipate a 20 percentage points or greater improvement between the pre-test and post-test results. Contact person: Tamara Waggener

Pre-Test Results –

The pre-test was administered to 261 sections .05, .06, .09, .16, .18, and .20. 313 students took the quiz. The average was 70.67. We anticipated a high pre-test average because the pre-test was administered three weeks into the course and thus students had already encountered a significant amount of information that was included in the pre-test.

Post-Test Results- The post-test was administered to 261 sections .05, .06, .09, .16, .18, and .20. 313 students took the quiz. The average was 90.2.

Improvement rate: 19.53 percentage points

10. To analyze, critically assess, and develop creative solutions to public policy problems.

POL – Students in sections of POL 285 (sections 12, 14, and 16) will be given a 15 item pre-test at the beginning of the semester and a 15 item post-test at the end of the semester that will assess student knowledge in this area. Students in sections of POL 281 (section 04) will be given a 8 item pre-test at the beginning of the semester and a 8 item post-test at the end of the semester that will assess student knowledge in this area. Students in sections of POL 285 (sections 18 and 19) will be given a 5 item pre-test at the beginning of the semester and a 15 item post-test at the end of the semester that will assess student knowledge in this area. We anticipate a 20 percentage points or greater improvement between the pre-test and post-test results. This data will be collected and analyzed to measure student progress. Contact person: Tamara Waggener

Pre-Test Results:

In 281.01, 33 students took the quiz. The average was 30.68

In 285 (sections 12, 14, and 16) 130 students took the quiz. The average was 50.82

In 285.04. 34 students took the quiz. The average was 51.57.

In 285 (sections 18 and 19) 107 students took the quiz. The average was 30.

Post-Test Results:

In 281.01, 22 students took the quiz. The average was 51.7

In 285 (sections 12, 14, and 16) 105 students took the quiz. The average was 66.5

In 285.04. 34 students took the quiz. The average was 58.63

In 285 (sections 18 and 19) the post-test was not administered

Improvement rate:

285.01 – 21.02 percentage points

285 (sections 12, 14, and 16) – 15.68 percentage points

285.04 – 7.06 percentage points

According to the faculty members in charge of 285.12, 14, 16 and 285.04, the pre/post tests were not incorporated into students' final grades. Thus students had no incentive for taking the quizzes seriously. The faculty members believe that the lack of improvement was a result of the students' failure to take the quizzes seriously rather than a result of students' failure to learn the course objectives.

11. To recognize and assume one's responsibility as a citizen in a democratic society by learning to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse, and by obtaining information through the news media and other appropriate information sources about politics and public policy.

POL – Students in sections of POL 265 will be given a 10 item pre-test at the beginning of the semester and a 10 item post-test at the end of the semester that will assess student knowledge in this area. We anticipate a 20 percentage point or greater improvement between the pre-test and post-test results. This data will be collected and analyzed to measure student progress. Contact person: Tamara Waggener

Pre-Test Results – The pre-test was administered to 265 sections .01 and .01 Honors. 53 students took the quiz. The average was 40.3.

Post-Test Results – The post-test was administered to 265 sections .01 and .01 Honors. 42 students took the quiz. The average was 76.7.

Improve rate:

265 (sections 01 and 01 Honors) – 36.4 percentage points.