Definition of Unit

Bachelor of Science in Professional Studies (TNeCampus)

Reporting Year: 2018-2019

Providing Department: Professional Studies BS

Department/Unit Contact: Dr. Joe Roberts

Mission/Vision/Goal Statement:

The Professional Studies Program is committed to serving and providing traditional and non-traditional students with an intellectually engaging and effective undergraduate, educational experience utilizing technology through on-ground, hybrid, and online delivery systems as they enhance their knowledge, analytical abilities, critical thinking, and communication skills for upward mobility in their professional field.

This undergraduate degree consists of 120 hours of interdisciplinary course work and is available in four concentrations:

Health Administration prepares students interested in entering the health care field in an administrative capacity planning, coordinating, and supervising the processes of medical facilities/offices.

Information Technology is designed to prepare managers and non-managers to use information for decision-making as well as improve proficiency in software, operating systems, and management of networking systems.

International Organizational Leadership prepares students to lead in a global economy spanning differing management styles, business practices, and cultural awareness.

Organizational Leadership develops a student's foundation of leadership skills through a variety of communication outlets, critical thinking and problem solving situations applicable in real-world businesses and organizations.

Goal/Objective/Outcome

Program Goal 1 - Critical Thinking

Define Goal:

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge necessary to engage in critical thinking skills and leadership development.

Intended Outcomes / Objectives:

Professional Studies majors will develop critical thinking skills, as measurable through the Senior Exit Exam.

Program Goal 2 - Integrated Learning

Define Goal:

Integrate knowledge from the program of study to make application to real world situations and communicate research results with a focus from one of the Professional Studies four concentrations.

Intended Outcomes / Objectives:

Students will successfully demonstrate the synthesis of knowledge from their program of study with a focus from their concentration area in a Culminating Project during their senior year.

Program Goal 3 - Professional Research Project

Define Goal:

Identify and develop a research project from the perspective of the students' concentration area that addresses a real world problem and effectively communicate findings.

Intended Outcomes / Objectives:

Each student will successfully complete a research project or paper report from their concentration area that is acceptable, correctly utilizing appropriate academic sources.

Assessment Tools

Assessment - Senior Capstone Project Rubric

Goal/ Outcome/ Objective: Goals 1, 2, & 3

Type of Tool: Rubric

Frequency of Assessment: Each semester

Rationale:

The BPS Professional Culminating Project will be assessed on the basis of a rubric. (See attached file)

The Senior Culminating Project or Capstone course is required of all Professional Studies majors. Each student must complete either a 6000 word research paper or a real-world project that demonstrates a synthesis of knowledge from their program of study from their concentration area.

Faculty members complete the rubric on each student that completes the course, entering a score based on the rubric. The scores are combined to get an overall score for each semester's cohort of students.

Data from the rubric is used to assess overall preparedness for the senior project, and student development in research question development, analysis, integration and synthesis of concentration areas, documentation, and critical thinking. Data is also used in program evaluation to assess areas of needed improvement. A score of 2.5 is adequate, 3.0 is considered acceptable, 3.5 advanced, and 4.0 stellar.

Results are distributed to the Dean of the College and the Director of Professional Studies.

Attached Files
📄 Senior Capstone Project Rubric.docx

Assessment - Senior Exit Exam

Goal/ Outcome/ Objective: Goal 1

Type of Tool: Exit Exam

Frequency of Assessment: Annually

Rationale:

The Senior Exit Exam is administered to every student who graduates from TTU, with the exception of non-traditional students. This assessment evaluates students in the area of critical thinking. Scores are aggregated by major and reported annually. The California Critical Thinking Test is a well-tested measure of critical thinking and is accepted by the University as a whole. (It must be noted that the exception of Non-traditional student scores is a university policy and not one of the SOPS. The exemption leads to the exclusion of many of our majors from the data. Its our goal to work toward the inclusion of all SOPS students.)

The School of Professional Studies uses the Senor Exit Exam to evaluate majors in Critical Thinking. The goal is to have an increasing score in the Exam annually, and to meet or exceed the university average score.

Results are distributed to the Dean of the College and discussed among faculty and School Directors.

Results

Results - Senior Exit Exam

Goal/Objective/Outcome Number: Goal 1

Results:

The Senior Exit Exam (California Critical Thinking Test) is administered to every student who graduates from TTU, with the exception of non-traditional students. This assessment evaluates students in the area of critical thinking. Scores are aggregated by major and reported annually. The California Critical Thinking Test is a well-tested measure of critical thinking, and is accepted by the University as a whole. (It must be noted that the exception of Non-traditional student scores is a university policy and not one of the SOPS. The exemption leads to the exclusion of over 40% of our majors from the data. It is our goal to work toward the inclusion of all SOPS students.)

Senior Exit Exam										
	2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017		2017-2018		2018-2019	
COLLEGE	Mean	N*	Mean	N*	Mean	N*	Mean	N*	Mean	N*
Agriculture & Human Sciences	18.2	122	16.8	111	17.1	158	15	92	13.9/72	143
Arts & Sciences	17.8	324	17.5	304	16.2	403	17.5	228	18.3/78	225
Business	16.7	193	19.9	137	18.7	308	20	236	15.1/73	238
Education	16.8	357	16.3	300	16.8	337	15.4	248	14.7/73	232
Engineering	17.2	312	16	319	16	383	20.6	351	20.3/81	359
Interdisciplinary Studies	16.6	39	17.5	26	17	70	15.8	54	14.7/73	96
Nursing**	18.7	43	15.8	52	20.1	106	17.1	105	16.6/75	92
TTU Average	17.3	1411	16.9	1485	17	1767	17.6	1314	16.8/76	1515
CCTST National Average	~17.1		~17.1		~16.2		~16.2		~15.42/74	

Attachments:

Results: Senior Capstone Assessment Rubric - Fall 2018 and Spring 2019

Goal/Objective/Outcome Number: Goals 1, 2, and 3

Results:

Faculty members complete the rubric on each student that completes the course, entering a score based on the rubric. The scores are combined to get an overall score for each semester's cohort of students.

Data from the rubric is used to assess overall preparedness for the senior project, and student development in research question development, analysis, integration and synthesis of concentration areas, documentation, and critical thinking. Data is also used in program evaluation to assess areas of needed improvement. A score of 2.5 is adequate, 3.0 is considered acceptable, 3.5 advanced, and 4.0 stellar.

	Thesis / Problem Question	Information Seeking Selecting and Evaluating	Analysis	Synthesis	Documentation	Product Process	Critical Thinking
Average (4.0 scale) Fall 2018	3.47	3.48	3.36	3.46	3.33	3.33	3.46
Spring 2019	3.65	3.23	3.27	3.40	3.18	3.10	3.35

Attachments: Attached Files

 Copy of 4995 Rubric Report Form.xlsx