

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR
College of Liberal Arts
Political Science Department**

STRENGTHS:

- Cost effectiveness and the stability of tuition revenue and ICR despite 22.4% decline in departmental costs and 72% decline in state appropriations
- Grant funding successes, research publications (41 since 2015) in highly regarded journals, and teaching successes
- Student involvement in Ted Stevens Legislative Internship Program
- Students and/or alumni currently employed in Juneau and/or as campaign managers that advocate for university and continued funding
- Split appointments of faculty and collaboration with other campus centers

WEAKNESSES:

- Faculty members' split appointments put further strain on the ability to offer a broad curriculum.
- Declining resources in support of research and travel
- Inability to replace retired faculty members; faculty attrition

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Online course delivery and the growth of those offerings over the past 5 years which ultimately resulted in the decision to offer the BA online fully beginning AY 2020-21
- Potential for collaboration with the UAS Social Sciences department to coordinate online course offerings as a means of boosting enrollment
- Deeper academic and administrative collaboration within CLA amongst various departments

THREATS:

- Non-tuition revenue and budget cuts to the university in general
- COVID-19 has led to a drop in enrollment.
- Faculty fatigue with ongoing restructuring and review processes with differing criteria

CENTRALITY TO MISSION:

- Program is central to UAF's core themes to educate, prepare, research, and engage.
- Arctic and Alaska-specific coursework and Arctic and Northern Studies program and Center for Arctic Policy Studies all are central to the mission of emphasizing circumpolar north and active citizenship of students.

INDICATORS OF QUALITY:

- Letters of support were submitted from Sen. Kawasaki, Rep. Hopkins, Dr. Arleigh Reynolds, and IARC Director Hajo Eiken.
- Joint appointment of faculty and many examples of collaboration
- Reputation of teaching faculty among students

COST-EFFECTIVENESS:

SCH

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
SCH	PS - Lower	554	519	522	363	423
SCH	PS - Upper	624	771	609	600	687
SCH	PS - Grad	27	48	15	15	24
SCH	PS - External	357	330	261	186	174

Majors

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Majors	BA Political Science	42	45	47	48	41
Majors	BI Premajor - Political Science	0	2	2	0	0

Degrees

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Degrees	BA Political Science	2	6	3	5	10

FTEs

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
FTEs	Adjunct FTEs	0.2	0.1	0.2	0	0.1
FTEs	Faculty FTEs	3.1	3.1	3.7	2.9	2.9
FTEs	Staff FTEs	0.7	0.2	0	0	0
FTEs	Student FTEs	1.1	0.2	0	0	0

Expenditures

Metric	Program	Detail	FY20
Instructional Expenditures	CLA Political Science	Unrestricted	415362.3
Salaries and Benefits	CLA Political Science	Unrestricted	410665.1

The dean expressed a recommendation for merging Political Science with History. The representatives for Political Science hoped to work toward the goal of a pre-law program. While not against the idea of merging, the representatives wish to hold off for the time being on further consideration until other specific departmental and program goals are met and SEP is finalized.

Political Science BA

RECOMMENDATION:	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP:
Continuation: 6 votes		
Continuation w/ improvement plan: 2 votes		