## Academic Program: SIS: International Relations - PhD

### Unit's Primary Department
SIS-Genl

### Learning Outcome: Academic Literature

Graduates will have a strong knowledge of the academic literature in IR, broadly defined, with a particular focus in intended areas of expertise.

**Outcome Year:** 2010-2011
- 2011-2012
- 2012-2013

**Start Date:** 11/17/2010

**Outcome Status:** Active Learning Outcome

### Assessment Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Method</th>
<th>Target</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct Measure: Student performance in courses SIS-700, SIS-701, SIS-705 and oral qualifying examination at the end of the first year. <strong>Measure Type:</strong> Written Assignment</td>
<td>At least 80% of the students pass first attempt at taking the Oral Qualifying Exam. All students pass the exam</td>
<td>Instructors of core PhD courses will meet each fall semester and use the information to adjust course content and teaching. Next review: Nov. 2010</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Indirect measure: Annual meeting of instructors of core PhD courses to coordinate course offerings and to discuss student performance. **Measure Type:** Other

No target identified. Instructors of core PhD courses will meet each fall semester to use the information to adjust course content and teaching. Next review: Nov. 2010. Yes

### Related Courses

- SIS-700 - Comparative and Regional Studies Proseminar
- SIS-701 - International Relations Proseminar
- SIS-705 - Social Theory in Comparative and International Perspective

### Related Action Steps

* Supporting Assessment: weak comp exam result

**Description:** The exam now has a new format that is open book and gives students more time to take the exam.

### Learning Outcome: Research Methods

Graduates will have a basic facility with the major methodologies and research methods used in IR, broadly defined, and expertise in at least one of them.

**Outcome Year:** 2010-2011
- 2011-2012
- 2012-2013

**Start Date:** 11/17/2010

**Outcome Status:** Active Learning Outcome

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<td>Direct measure: Student performance in courses SIS-710 and SIS-714. Methodology section of prospectus is clear and state of the art; methods are compatible with topic of research. <strong>Measure Type:</strong> Written Assignment</td>
<td>At least 90% of the students have sound prospectus methodology sections at the time of the prospectus defense.</td>
<td>Instructors of core PhD courses will meet each fall semester and use the information to adjust course content and teaching. Next review: Nov. 2010.</td>
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<td>Instructors of core PhD courses will meet each fall semester to use the information to adjust course content and teaching. Next review: Nov. 2010.</td>
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**Measure Type:** Other

SIS students created and executed a survey in spring 2012. The main topic of survey was method training (Outcome 2). **Measure Type:** Survey

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### Related Courses
- SIS-710 - Colloquium in International Relations
- SIS-714 - Conduct of Inquiry in International Relations

### Related Action Steps
* Supporting Assessment: Student Survey

**Description:** As a result of the finding of student survey the program director endeavored to combined quantitative instruction of SIS and SPA PhD students into a single class taught by SPA instructors. SPA rejected this solution. Instead, SIS716 will have new instructors for the spring of 2013. The class shall be made more rigorous.

### Learning Outcome: Writing Skills

Graduates have social science writing skills.

**Outcome Year:**
- 2010-2011
- 2011-2012
- 2012-2013

**Start Date:** 11/17/2010

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<td>Direct measure: Student performance on written assignments for SIS-700, SIS-701, SIS-705, SIS-714, SIS-715 and prospectus.</td>
<td>At least 80% of the students achieve a grade of A- or better on the writing assignment for SIS-715. The writing of 90% of the students is at contemporary social science standards for a publishable work.</td>
<td>Instructors of core PhD courses will meet each fall semester to use the information to adjust course content and teaching. Next review: Nov. 2010.</td>
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**Measure Type:** Written Assignment

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<td>Indirect measure: Annual meeting of instructors of core PhD courses to coordinate course offerings and to discuss student performance.</td>
<td>No target identified.</td>
<td>Instructors of core PhD courses will meet each fall semester to use the information to adjust course content and teaching. Next review: Nov. 2010.</td>
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**Measure Type:** Other

### Related Courses
- SIS-700 - Comparative and Regional Studies Proseminar
- SIS-701 - International Relations Proseminar
- SIS-705 - Social Theory in Comparative and International Perspective
- SIS-714 - Conduct of Inquiry in International Relations
- SIS-715 - Seminar on Advanced Research Design
Learning Outcome: Publishable Research

Graduates will use the skills developed in outcomes 1 (academic literature), 2 (research methods), and 3 (writing skills) to produce research publishable in scholarly venues in the field of International Relations, broadly defined, in a timely fashion.

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2011-2012  
2012-2013  
**Start Date:** 11/17/2010  
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<td>Direct measure: Successful and timely prospectus defense. Success includes mastering outcomes, having strong analytical question, the ability to articulate and implement the appropriate methodologies, and demonstration of knowledge of the relevant academic literature. Complete a publishable dissertation in a timely fashion. Number of submissions per graduate student to academic journals, and success rate, taking journal quality also into account. <strong>Measure Type:</strong> Final Paper/ Final Project</td>
<td>Modal student prospectus completion sometime in the third year. Modal student dissertation completion rate of five years. Each student should submit at least one manuscript to an academic journal by the end of the second year of study, and subsequently submit journal manuscripts at least once every two years thereafter.</td>
<td>The PhD program will collect the data annually; and it will be discussed by the Dean, the Director of Doctoral Studies and the SIS PhD Committee Chair at an annual summer meeting. Summer 2010 Review: Completed. Next review: July 2011</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Indirect measure: Annual meeting between Dean, Director of Doctoral Studies and SIS PhD Committee Chair to discuss progress toward the degree, including, when relevant, quality of coursework and outcomes in qualifying. <strong>Measure Type:</strong> Other</td>
<td>No target identified.</td>
<td>The PhD program will collect the data annually; and it will be discussed by the Dean, the Director of Doctoral Studies and the SIS PhD Committee Chair at an annual summer meeting. Summer 2010 Review: Completed. Next review: July 2011</td>
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Learning Outcome: Funding Proposals

Graduates will write competitive proposals for research funding.

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2011-2012  
2012-2013  
**Start Date:** 11/17/2010  
**Outcome Status:** Active Learning Outcome

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<td>Grant-proposal writing assignment in SIS-715. <strong>Measure Type:</strong> Written Assignment</td>
<td>Establish a baseline in Year 2 and then set a target that indicates incremental improvement (e.g., 5% per year).</td>
<td>The PhD program will collect the data annually; and it will be discussed by the Dean, the Director of Doctoral Studies and the SIS PhD Committee Chair at an annual summer meeting. Summer 2010 Review: Completed. Next review: July 2011</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Indirect measure: Number of funding submissions per graduate student to academic journals, and success rate, taking in account acceptance rate. <strong>Measure Type:</strong></td>
<td>No target identified.</td>
<td>The PhD program will collect the data annually; and it will be discussed by the Dean, the Director of Doctoral Studies and</td>
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## Related Courses

- SIS-715 - Seminar on Advanced Research Design

## Learning Outcome: Presentation

Graduates will present research effectively at academic conferences and job talks.

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<td>Quality in-class presentations for all the SIS PhD core seminars that show a firm grasp of both methodological and substantive knowledge. Quality presentations at the SIS PhD Research Seminar. <strong>Measure Type:</strong> Presentation</td>
<td>Mean grade for presentations in all core seminars is an A-. Each student shall present a paper in at least one academic conference by the end of the third year of study, and subsequently present a paper at least once every two years thereafter.</td>
<td>The PhD program will collect the data annually; and it will be discussed by the Dean, the Director of Doctoral Studies and the SIS PhD Committee Chair at an annual summer meeting. Summer 2010 Review: Completed. Next review: July 2011</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Indirect Measure: Number of student presentations at academic conferences; quality of those academic conferences, based on the reputation of the association (e.g., with the American Political Science Association and the International Studies Association at the top). <strong>Measure Type:</strong> Presentation</td>
<td>No target identified.</td>
<td>The PhD program will collect the data annually; and it will be discussed by the Dean, the Director of Doctoral Studies and the SIS PhD Committee Chair at an annual summer meeting. Summer 2010 Review: Completed. Next review: July 2011</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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## Learning Outcome: Effective Teaching

For those interested in pursuing a teaching career in higher education: teach effectively.

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- **Outcome Year:** 2012-2013
- **Start Date:** 11/17/2010
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<td>Direct measure: Participation and earning certificates in Greenberg Seminar series. SETs for students who teach. Serving as a TA or teaching a class.</td>
<td>Establish a baseline in Year 2 and then set a target that indicates incremental improvements (e.g., 5% per year).</td>
<td>The PhD program will collect the data annually; and it will be discussed by the Dean, the Director of Doctoral Studies and the SIS PhD Committee Chair at an annual summer meeting. Summer 2010 Review: Completed. Next review: July 2011</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Field Work/ Internship</td>
<td></td>
<td>the SIS PhD Committee Chair at an annual summer meeting.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUMMER 2010 REVIEW</td>
<td>Completed.</td>
<td>Next review: July 2011</td>
<td></td>
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