

Sample Targeted Program Review Questions

1. Does the structure of this major help achieve the department's learning aims?
2. Does the curriculum align with the university's mission statement, undergraduate/graduate learning outcomes? How does the curriculum compare with disciplinary norms and standards (e.g., align with recommendations from a relevant professional society's guidelines)?
3. What would be a good model for a department as small as ours that services so many different majors and minors? Do we want new hires and affiliate faculty to broaden our curriculum, or would we be better off with narrowing the scope of courses offered to a few concentrations? Should we have a central focus?
4. How can we best prepare our students for life past their undergraduate degree (e.g., preparation for graduate school, industry jobs)? Is there a better model for a capstone experience than what is currently offered? [OR, should we have a capstone experience for those that don't offer it]
5. [For selected disciplines like Social Sciences], what should we be doing about Methods? Should we teach a) a general methods course with a requirement that students take either a qualitative or quantitative follow-up; b) develop a two-term sequence in which students must develop a design and then do empirical data analysis; or c) something else? What are the costs and benefits of these approaches?
6. How can we increase the number of majors and minors? What types of marketing strategies have proven effective? Are there curriculum changes that should be made (or perhaps we should hesitate to make) with this goal in mind?
7. How could we enhance our efforts in support of diversity and inclusive excellence for a positive impact on recruitment and retention of both faculty members and students?
8. How are faculty hired and monitored to determine if course content and pedagogy are updated regularly and in alignment with current research and practice? Relatedly, how are faculty supported to maintain currency in discipline and area of teaching and research?
9. How can we further support and grow participation in experiential learning opportunities for students in our major?