Fall 2016 Outcomes Data

Student self-reported progress on key learning objectives shown below are from IDEA evaluation scores for courses within the Political Science major compared to a national database of university instruction.

IDEA | IDEA | IDEA | IDEA | IDEA | Overall | Resp. %
-----|------|------|------|------|---------|--------
59.28 | 60.72 | 57.72 | 56.19 | 59.50 | 58.68 | 53.31%
(Top 30%) | (Top 30%) | (Top 30%) | (Top 30%) | (Top 30%) | (Top 30%)

Much Higher = Highest 10% of classes (63 or higher)
Higher = Next 20% (56-62)
Similar = Middle 40% (45-55)
Lower = Next 20% (38-44)
Much Lower = Lowest 10% (37 or lower)
Compared to a national data base

**IDEA Objective 1**
To increase factual knowledge about the American political system

**IDEA Objective 2**
To increase knowledge of fundamental principles, generalizations, and theories of political science

**IDEA Objective 3**
To increase thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills

**IDEA Objective 8**
To increase ability to express oneself orally and in writing

**IDEA Objective 11**
To increase skill in analyzing and critically evaluating ideas, arguments, and points of view

Notes: IDEA Student Ratings of Instruction provide one measure of teaching effectiveness. IDEA allows faculty to rate the importance of 12 learning objectives as “essential,” important,” or “minor or not important.” In the IDEA system, students self-report their progress on instructor selected objectives.

IDEA provides comparative data of teaching effectiveness. With more than 160,000 classes processed annually, IDEA has national benchmark data. Three “comparison groups” are available to benchmark individual instructor scores: 1) The overall IDEA database, with three years of national peer data; 2) A Discipline comparison, a five-year rolling average of all classes taught in a selected discipline; and 3) A USU comparison, a five-year rolling average of all courses evaluated at USU.

Scores between 45-55 are statistically “similar” to peers in the comparison group, with the average set at 50. A score of 56-62 is statistically “higher” than peers, and a score of 63 or greater is in the upper 10% of all classes.