



The mission of Merritt College is to enhance the quality of life in the communities we serve by helping students to attain knowledge, master skills, and develop the appreciation, attitudes and values needed to succeed and participate responsibly in a democratic society and a global economy

## 2020-2021

# Annual Program Update

### I. Introduction and Directions

The Peralta Community College District has an institutional effectiveness process which consists of the following components: a District-wide Strategic Plan which is updated every six years; Comprehensive Program Reviews which are completed every three years; and Annual Program Updates (APUs) which are completed in non-program review years. While there are individualized Program Review Handbooks for Instructional units, Counseling, CTE, Library Services, Student Services, Administrative units, and District Service Centers, there is one Annual Program Update template for use by everyone at the colleges which is completed in the Fall semester of non-program review years.

The Annual Program Update is intended to primarily focus upon planning and institutional effectiveness by requesting that everyone report upon the progress they are making in attaining the goals (outcomes) and program improvement objectives described in the most recent program review document. The Annual Program Update is therefore a document which reflects continuous quality improvement. The Annual Program Update serves a critical role in the Integrated Planning and Budgeting cycle of the college in that it provides a vehicle in which to identify and request additional resources that support reaching the stated goals (outcomes) and program improvement objectives in the unit's program review.

*Throughout this document, the term "program" is used to refer to any of the following institutional structures: discipline, department, program, administrative unit, or unit.*

*If you have questions regarding data, please contact Nathan Pellegrin, Director of Research*

and Planning ([npellegrin@peralta.edu](mailto:npellegrin@peralta.edu)).

If you have questions regarding SLOs, PLOs, SAOs or ILOs, please visit the [SLOAC webpage](#), or contact the SLOAC committee member for your division:

Division 1 - Evan Nichols ([anichols@peralta.edu](mailto:anichols@peralta.edu))

Division 2 – Laura Forlin ([lforlin@peralta.edu](mailto:lforlin@peralta.edu))

Division 3 – Heather Casale ([hcasale@peralta.edu](mailto:hcasale@peralta.edu)).

If you have questions regarding the curriculum section, please contact Nghiem Thai ([nthai@peralta.edu](mailto:nthai@peralta.edu)), chair of the [Curriculum Committee](#).

If you have questions regarding other material in the APU, please contact your Dean or Manager.

This document contains hyperlinks to external documents, spreadsheets, and data dashboards. Some of the links will not work unless you are signed in to Office 365 through the [Peralta Faculty & Staff Portal](#).

You will need the following items in order to complete the Annual Program Update document at the colleges:

- [Program Review or APU document](#) from AY 2019-20.
- [Budget Information](#) for the current and prior fiscal year.
- Any comments or feedback provided during the program review validation process.
- College Goals and Peralta District Goals (see below).
- [Institution Set Standards](#).
- [College 2018 Educational Master Plan Update](#).
- [Guided Pathways Plan](#)
- [Student Equity Plan](#).
- Data drawn from program review dashboards and/or other sources relevant to your department, service area or administrative unit (see below).

### **Merritt College Institution-Set Standards 2020-2021**

Institution-set standards are used to evaluate the quality of the institution as to success with respect to student achievement in relation to the institution's mission. The evaluation of student achievement performance may include different standards for different programs, as established by the institution.

<b>Metric</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Set Standard</b>
Course Completion (Success)	the number of student completions with a grade of C or better divided by the number of student enrollments	66%
Certificates	Number of certificates earned in an academic year	222
Degrees	Number of associate degrees earned in an academic year	322
Transfer	Number of students who transfer to a 4- year college/university	187
Licensure (CE)	Examination pass rates in programs for which students must pass a licensure examination in order to work in their field of study	70%
Employment (CE)	The job placement rate of student completing a degree or certificate in a CE program in the year after graduation.	Macro-Region Employment Rate, by

## College Profile

### Student Body Demographics

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Annual Unduplicated Count of Students	12,336	12,861	12,130
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	64%	64%	63%
Male	34%	34%	34%
Decline to State/ Unknown	2%	2%	3%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
American Indian	< 1%	< 1%	< 1%
Asian	19%	20%	19%
Black / African American	23%	23%	22%
Hispanic / Latino	31%	32%	33%
Pacific Islander	1%	< 1%	< 1%
Two or More	5%	6%	5%
Unknown / NR	4%	4%	5%
White	16%	16%	15%
<b>Age</b>			
18 and Under	15%	15%	16%
19-24	35%	35%	35%
25-29	16%	17%	16%
30-34	11%	11%	11%
35-54	17%	17%	17%
55 and Over	6%	6%	5%

### Course Success Rates

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Total Enrollment (Duplicated Count)	33,288	33,637	32,928
Overall Success Rate	70%	70%	68%
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	70%	70%	69%
Male	69%	69%	66%
Decline to State/ Unknown	77%	74%	64%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
Black/African-American	62%	62%	60%
Asian	81%	80%	81%
Hispanic	68%	68%	64%
Native American	66%	72%	53%
Pacific Islander	61%	71%	63%
Two or More	65%	67%	68%
Unknown	72%	73%	66%
White	78%	78%	75%
<b>Age</b>			
Under 16	83%	91%	84%
16-18	73%	75%	69%
19-24	65%	66%	64%
25-29	70%	69%	68%
30-34	73%	73%	73%
35-54	74%	73%	71%
55-64	74%	71%	66%
65 and Over	77%	77%	60%

*\*Includes 'EW' grades*

## II. Program Overview

### Mission Statement

Please verify the mission statement for your program. If your program has not created a mission statement, provide details on how your program supports and contributes to the College mission.

Program Mission: The Mission of the Political Science department at Merritt College is to transmit the knowledge of the discipline by providing courses and instruction that are characterized by excellence. To provide a basic, general knowledge of American government and to provide programs to our students that fosters critical, independent thinking about politics and public life.

### Faculty and Staff

List your Faculty and/or Staff. Indicate if they are part-time or full-time. (If names are already listed, they were imported from last year's APU/PR. Add or remove persons as needed to reflect current personnel).

Name	Faculty/Staff	PT/FT
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Landeros Part Time  
Nakagawa Part Time

### Program Goals

In this section, indicate programs goals, the status of each, and how they align with College and District strategic goals. Following are the strategic goals for Peralta CCD and Merritt College.

#### Peralta District Strategic Goals

- P1. Advance student access, equity, and success.
- P2. Engage and leverage partners.
- P3. Build programs of distinction.
- P4. Strengthen accountability, innovation, and collaboration.
- P5. Develop and manage resources to advance our mission.

## Merritt College Strategic Goals

- M1. **Completion** - Increase number of degrees and certificates by 20% over the next 5 years.
- M2. **Transfer** - Increase transfers to CSU and UC by 6% annually. (Reach approx. 35% in 5 years).
- M3. **Time to Completion** - Reduce the number of excess units earned by students.
- M4. **Employment** - Maintain at least 82% of students attaining employment in the field of study.
- M5. **Equity** - Reduce the achievement gaps for African-American, multiethnic, and male students.

Below are your Program Goals from your most recent Program Review or APU, if available. Indicate whether the goal has been completed (C), is in progress (IP), no longer applicable (NA), or new (NEW). Be sure to state goals which are *measurable* and *time-based*. Indicate which College and District goal your program goal aligns to. If your goal has been completed, what evidence supports completion of this goal? How did you measure the achievement of this goal?

Program Goal	Status (C, IP, NA, NEW)	Applicable College Goal(s)	Applicable District Goal(s)	If completed, describe supporting evidence, including measurements of achievements.
<b>The Program Goal for the previous APU was to fill the long vacant full time position in Political Science. This goal was not met and the new updated goal for 2020-2021 will be to create a solid adjunct faculty team and make sure that courses have been properly updated. This goal aligns with the goal of Building Programs of Distinction, 2. Merritt Goal__ GOAL 1: Create an environment of exceptional student access, equity and success.</b>	This goal was not been met and is being modified for 2020-2021  N/A	M1, M5	P1,P3,P4.	Evidence will be clearly shown in curricunet as well as published and electronic course material.

### III. Facilities Utilization

Describe your current utilization of facilities, including labs and other space.  
Confirm previously reported content.

Current utilization of facilities are limited, the majority of offering are on-line at this time.

## IV. Program Update Data

In this section you will review and reflect upon the data for your program. Use data which measure performance on outcomes relevant to the mission and goals of your program, which will vary according to which area of the college your program is in.

In your response, refer to data applicable to your program obtained from the APU dashboards and/or other sources.

### APU Data Dashboards:

- [Course Completion and Retention Rates Dashboard – Instruction](#)
- [Course Completion and Retention Rates Dashboard – Student Services](#)
- [Enrollment Trend and Productivity Dashboard](#)
- [Degrees and Certificates Dashboard](#)

*For departments or programs in the Student Services area, refer to reports provided by institutional data systems (i.e., PeopleSoft or SARS), results of student surveys, or external reports (i.e. [IPEDS](#) or [Launchboard](#)). Include the number of students served over an academic year and summarize their demographics.*

*For departments in the Business and Operations areas, use data which track the key function provided to the College, such as facilities usage for events, tickets received and closed, the number of invoices process or the time to disbursement.*

Use historical data (3 years is recommended, if available) to estimate a baseline, then use this to project activity and inform requests for the coming year.

Describe any significant changes and discuss what the changes mean to your program. Consider whether performance or service gaps exist for disproportionality impacted students. Focus upon the most recent year and/or the years since your last comprehensive program review. Cite data points from the program review dashboards or other data sources relevant to your service, business, operations or administrative area to support your answer. If you wish, you may include screenshots of the dashboard to show filtered results containing the relevant figures. Instructions on taking screenshots for [Windows](#) and [Mac](#))

Significant changes and impact program: Looking back to data from 2107 up to 2020 **Productivity:** in the Political Science program productivity has been falling slightly, The productivity standard is FTES/FTEF = 17.5 so the department is lingering around 17.1 percent, presently PoliSci 1 is the main class being offered at Merritt College, looking at the data it becomes clear that we are not doing as much as we can in this department, we must look at increasing offerings and hiring more faculty to support this area, I really believe that two more adjunct faculty with greater enthusiasm and connectedness to our campus and population will impact this trend positively.



**Course Completion and Retention:** The completion and retention rates in Political Science from 2017-2019 have stayed pretty constant between 50 and 68% completion and 70 to 79% retention. These numbers can be increased positively through enhanced program offerings and expansion of the adjunct pool.

Describe the program's progress on Service Area Outcomes and/or Administrative Unit Outcomes (AUOs) since the last Program Review or APU. For instructional programs, describe the program's progress on Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) and, if your discipline offers a degree or certificate, please describe the department's progress on Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs).

From 2017-2018 outcomes were not updated consistently due to staffing limitations as taken from the previous APU data on this topic. The goal was for updates to have been done by 2019, some limited work has been completed. The Updates will be brought up to par by the end of spring 2021

Outcome # 1

Students will: Learn to critically assess, analyze and write about the essential features of the American political system, including the constitution, government, interest groups, social Movements, political parties, campaigns and elections.

Outcome # 2

Students will: demonstrate analytical thinking about issues relating to political principles, Government structure, government processes and policy positions.

Outcome # 3

Students will: Learn how to participate in the political process at a local, state and national level by learning about how our government works.

Describe the **results of** your department/program/service assessment of student and Program Learning Outcomes/AUO/SAO. Indicate when and where dialogue is occurring. Discuss **changes/updates/resource requests** made to your program based on the assessment of outcomes of the SLOs/PLOs/SAOs/AUOs assessed in the past year and discuss their alignment with the [ILOs](#).

Dialogue within the Political Science Department has been limited due to the small adjunct team and the proximity of this team to the Merritt Campus. It is the hope of the Chair that this

will change and better program planning will take place by Spring of 2021. The first step in the process will be to hire more adjunct faculty thus enhancing participation in program development and planning. Stability in the Division Deans office will also play a major role in the growth of this area.

The following item is for instructional programs only  
Discuss how your PLOs align with the [ILOs](#).

## V. Curriculum

*Note: If your department, program, or unit does not have a curricular component, please skip to the Section VII.*

Curriculum review is an integral part of the program review process. Instructional departments and programs must consider the state of their curricula (i.e., courses, certificates, and degrees) in order to engage in meaningful assessment, planning, and continuous quality improvement.

In accordance with the [State Chancellor's Office Program and Course Approval Handbook \(7<sup>th</sup> Edition\)](#), California community college curricula must meet five criteria:

1. Appropriateness to the mission of the California Community Colleges (as established in [California Education Code § 66010.4](#))
2. Community, service area, or student need
3. Adherence to accreditation and higher education standards
4. Availability of adequate resources to maintain the course or program (including offering all required courses for a program at least once every two years)
5. Compliance with federal and state statutes and regulations (notably Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations)

PCCD [Board Policy 4020](#) and [Administrative Procedure 4020](#) require that curricula be evaluated regularly through program review and annual program updates on a three-year cycle. For Career Education programs, however, this policy is superseded by [California Education Code § 78016\(a\)](#), which requires reviews every two years.

This section of the APU requests information about the status of course and program updates, improvement plans based on curriculum review, and prospective curriculum development. The Curriculum Committee shall evaluate the responses as part of the validation of APU completion and the prioritization of resource requests.

### **Curriculum Review**

Consult [CurriQunet](#) and the [Course Curriculum Review Status](#) or [Program Curriculum Review Status](#) spreadsheets to determine when a course or program was last updated or deactivated.

Courses that have not been offered in the past three years should be deactivated to

ensure that the college catalog presents a current and accurate inventory of actual course offerings at Merritt. Likewise, if certificates and degrees have not been awarded in recent years, or the required courses have not been offered regularly enough for students to complete, consider the relevance and viability of those programs for potential deactivation.

**Modifications**

Indicate courses reviewed/updated in the past academic year (2019-2020), following the example in red. Add additional rows as needed in the table below.

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Reviewer</b>
Course Number: POSCI 1	Government and Politics in the United States Units: 3	Powell

Indicate programs reviewed/updated in the past academic year (2019-2020), following the example in red. Add additional rows as needed in the table below.

<b>Program Title</b>	<b>Program Type</b>	<b>Reviewer</b>

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### Deactivations

Indicate courses deactivated in the past academic year (2019-2020), following the example in red. Add additional rows as needed in the table below.

Course Number	Course Title	Reviewer

Indicate programs deactivated in the past academic year (2019-2020), following the example in red. Add additional rows as needed in the table below.

Program Title	Program Type	Reviewer

### Curriculum Improvement

Based on ongoing curriculum review, describe plans for **program-level** improvement in terms of any of the following considerations:

- Advancing **student equity and achievement** for disproportionately impacted students.
- Fostering **intersegmental alignment** and **guided pathways** through articulation, course sequencing, and program mapping.
- Implementing innovative **pedagogies, delivery methods/modalities, or educational resources and technologies.**

- Expanding DE Addendums to cover all course offering in Political Science as well as looking at Hybrid options that will aid to advance student equity and achievement for disproportionately impacted students. This will be the program focus through 2021

### Curriculum Development

Indicate new courses to be proposed and/or historical courses to be reactivated within the next academic year (2021-2022), following the example in red. Add additional rows as needed in the table below.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Anticipated Effective Term</b>

Indicate new programs slated for development within the next academic year (2021-2022), following the example in red. Add additional rows as needed in the table below.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Anticipated Effective Term</b>

The Curriculum Committee shall prioritize the review and approval of new courses and programs that are identified in this section of the APU.

## VI. Funded Resources

For each resource allocation request from previous year's APU, indicate whether it was funded. Describe the outcomes and accomplishments for any requests which were funded.

<b>Brief description of resource request</b>	<b>Was request funded? (Yes or No)</b>	<b>Funding Source (Specify Fund or Grant)</b>	<b>Total Award Amount</b>	<b>Outcome/Accomplishment</b>
N/A No Resources requested				





## **Resource Requests (Non-Personnel)**

### *Resource Categories*

- Professional Development (Department wide)
- Professional Development (Personal/Individual)
- Required Reasonable Accommodation
- Service Contract
- Supplies: Software
- Supplies: Books, Magazines, and/or Periodicals
- Supplies: Instructional Supplies
- Supplies: Non-Instructional Supplies
- Supplies: Library Collections
- Technology & Equipment: New
- Technology & Equipment: Replacement
- Other

<b>Resource Category</b> (select from above list)	<b>Description/Justification</b>	<b>Total Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Priority Rank</b> (1=Highest Priority)	<b>COVID-19 Related</b> (Yes/No)

## VIII. Participants

Please provide the list of members who participated in completing this program review.

**Anthony Powell**

**With data gathered through from Adjunct faculty and previous APU.**

**Thank you for your time and effort in completing the Annual Program Update!**