Politics and International Relations Department

VSL Mapping with Department Major Goals

Our research sequence is carefully designed to facilitate the College's goal of helping students to "rigorously investigate and research these underlying causes and connections, learn to synthesize evidence from multiple sources, and design ways to answer their questions. They acquire the skills to evaluate arguments and evidence critically and develop independent, nuanced, and thoughtful analyses."

Internships, study abroad and Odyssey projects (which are not only encouraged but in some cases required of our majors) allow students to "bring their experiences in the wider community back to the classroom to enhance their course of study."

The professional development modules in the capstone experience "provide tools and opportunities to prepare our students for their prospective professional lives".

The requirement that they give feedback to each other at various points in the research sequence illustrates that we "strive to inspire them to lead lives of accomplishment as both leaders and team members".