

**Institute of World Politics**  
**2020-2021 Educational Effectiveness Assessment Report**  
**14 December 2021**

**Executive Summary**

The Educational Effectiveness Assessment was conducted by the Academic Affairs department with the assistance of other components of IWP. It is presented annually to the Assessment Committee for its review, suggestions, and guidance. The Committee's recommendations are then forwarded to the Academic Council for review and approval. Findings with significant financial implications or which require the action of other departments are provided to the Executive Vice President for review.

In the course of conducting this assessment, the department identified several positive developments:

- Student feedback in 2020-2021 course evaluations was predominantly positive, with many even praising faculty members for fostering a welcoming environment that led to meaningful discussions and use of critical thinking.
- Student performance in the comprehensive exams suggests that they are adequately achieving the expected learning outcomes at both the institutional and program level.
- The student job placement rate for attainment of careers relevant to their IWP education within one year of graduation is 96%, placing the Institute at or above its competitor schools.
- Retention remains high despite the pandemic and students are satisfied with our career services support and academic advising.
- In response to last year's demand signals for programs such as LinkedIn Learning and Tableau, IWP Career Services has developed training guides to direct students to free and low-cost government and other credible training programs and resources that students can take and utilize to learn topics that will complement their academic studies and report writing at the Institute.

The department also identified a few potential areas of concern:

- Students expressed a desire for more comprehensive feedback from faculty. This is an issue that came up last year, as well and will be emphasized in communications from the Dean of Academics to the faculty.
- A few faculty members are issuing a high number of “A” grades or Incompletes. The Dean will address this with the relevant professors.
- There were a high number of failing grades and withdrawals, though this could be explained by small class sizes and pandemic conditions. It is suggested we consider a recommended readings list for students prior to their studies at IWP so they arrive with a stronger knowledge base and are more likely to earn a passing grade.