

Assessment Plan**Wayne State University****Academic Programs****College of Liberal Arts and Sciences****Political Science****BA in Political Science** **Mission Statement -- BA in Political Science****Providing Department:** BA in Political Science**Start:** 9/1/2016**End:** 8/31/2017**Mission Statement**

The study of political science is focused on understanding the nature and problems of government and the role of politics in contemporary society. This is accomplished through systematic exploration of the structure and processes of government at different levels and across nations, through study of individual and collective political behavior, and through analyses of policy problems and the processes through which public policies are formulated and administered. Political science contributes to the goals of general education by promoting civic literacy and cultivating an awareness of the opportunities and obligations of citizenship at local, state, and national levels.

 **1: Research****Start:** 9/1/2016**End:** 8/31/2017**Learning Outcome Description**

To access and appropriately invoke scholarly research bearing on issues and topics.

 **2: Appreciation of Multiple Perspectives****Start:** 9/1/2016**End:** 8/31/2017**Learning Outcome Description**

To demonstrate appreciation of competing conceptual approaches to the subject matter.

 **3: Critical Judgment****Start:** 9/1/2016**End:** 8/31/2017

Learning Outcome Description

To apply critical judgment in assessing accounts and explanations of political phenomena.

**4: Expression**

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Learning Outcome Description

To communicate information and argumentation in writing in a clear, logical, and formally correct manner (with appropriate citations).

**BA Political Science Major Map**

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Providing Department: BA in Political Science

Attach Curriculum Map Here

BA Curriculum Map



PS BA Major Map

**1.1: Assessment: Research**

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Providing Department: BA in Political Science

Assessment Method

The undergraduate Director, or other faculty member at his delegation, read a sample of Writing Intensive (PS 5993) papers and assigned a grade from 1 to 5 on each (5 as highest in quality and 1 lowest), deriving an overall average.

5 = proficient, appropriate to candidate for graduate or professional school

4 = strong

3 = satisfactory, appropriate to entry into the workforce as a college graduate

2 = marginal

1 = unsatisfactory for a college graduate

Criteria: The paper uses sources properly and cites in accordance with a recognized system of citation.

Results

3.3

Results from Surveys Delivered through Baseline

Program Action Plan

The Undergraduate Programs Committee and the full departmental faculty met and decided on the following action plan:

- 1) Disseminate to all instructors the assessment rubric and an account of the strengths and weaknesses of students' papers by the above criterion.
- 2) Require all majors to complete at least one major course at the 4000 level or above.

Timeline for Action Plan Implementation

Goals for Spring/Summer 2018

- 1) Average of 3.0 or better of writing intensive papers for the 1.1 assessment outcome.
- 2) No more than 35% of writing intensive papers with a score below 2.5 for the 1.1 assessment outcome (20% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 1.1 assessment outcome in the 2016-2017 assessment period).

Reporting to Stakeholders

The results are imputed into Compliance Assist and posted on the department website.

Additional Information



1.2: Assessment: Research

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Providing Department: BA in Political Science

Assessment Method

The undergraduate Director, or other faculty member at his delegation, read a sample of Writing Intensive (PS 5993) papers and assigned a grade from 1 to 5 on each (5 as highest in quality and 1 lowest), deriving an overall average.

5 = proficient, appropriate to candidate for graduate or professional school

4 = strong

3 = satisfactory, appropriate to entry into the workforce as a college graduate

2 = marginal

1 = unsatisfactory for a college graduate

Criteria: The paper marshals substantial evidence for the thesis and establishes logical connections, avoiding fallacious reasoning.

Results

2.8

Results from Surveys Delivered through Baseline

Program Action Plan

The Undergraduate Programs Committee and the full departmental faculty met and decided on the following action plan:

- 1) Disseminate to all instructors the assessment rubric and an account of the strengths and weaknesses of students' papers by the above criterion.
- 2) Direct faculty attention to the following problems: Journalistic rather than scholarly sources; incomplete citations; inadequate linking of factual assertions to sources.
- 3) Require all majors to complete at least one major course at the 4000 level or above.

Timeline for Action Plan Implementation

Goals for Spring/Summer 2018

- 1) Average of 3.0 or better of writing intensive papers for the 1.2 assessment outcome.
- 2) No more than 25% of writing intensive papers with a score below 2.5 for the 1.2 assessment outcome (60% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 1.2 assessment outcome in the 2016-2017 assessment period).

Reporting to Stakeholders

The results are imputed into Compliance Assist and posted on the department website.

Additional Information



2.1: Assessment: Appreciation of Multiple Perspectives

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Providing Department: BA in Political Science

Assessment Method

The undergraduate Director, or other faculty member at his delegation, read a sample of Writing Intensive (PS 5993) papers and assigned a grade from 1 to 5 on each (5 as highest in quality and 1 lowest), deriving an overall average.

5 = proficient, appropriate to candidate for graduate or professional school

4 = strong

3 = satisfactory, appropriate to entry into the workforce as a college graduate

2 = marginal

1 = unsatisfactory for a college graduate

Criteria: The paper accurately identifies competing ways of understanding the phenomenon being studied.

Results

2.8

Results from Surveys Delivered through Baseline

Program Action Plan

The Undergraduate Programs Committee and the full departmental faculty met and decided on the following action plan:

- 1) Disseminate to all instructors the assessment rubric and an account of the strengths and weaknesses of students' papers by the above criterion.
- 2) Direct faculty attention to the following problems: The paper does not include multiple perspectives on the topics discussed.
- 3) Require all majors to complete at least one major course at the 4000 level or above.

Timeline for Action Plan Implementation

Goals for Spring/Summer 2018

- 1) Average of 3.0 or better of writing intensive papers for the 2.1 assessment outcome.
- 2) No more than 25% of writing intensive papers with a score below 2.5 for the 2.1 assessment outcome (50% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 2.1 assessment outcome in the 2016-2017 assessment period).

Reporting to Stakeholders

The results are inputted into Compliance Assist and posted on the department website.

Additional Information



2.2 : Assessment: Appreciation of Multiple Perspectives

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Providing Department: BA in Political Science

Assessment Method

The undergraduate Director, or other faculty member at his delegation, read a sample of Writing Intensive (PS 5993) papers and assigned a grade from 1 to 5 on each (5 as highest in quality and 1 lowest), deriving an overall average.

5 = proficient, appropriate to candidate for graduate or professional school

4 = strong

3 = satisfactory, appropriate to entry into the workforce as a college graduate

2 = marginal

1 = unsatisfactory for a college graduate

Criteria: The paper gives a fair account of the strengths of alternative approaches.

Results

2.6

Results from Surveys Delivered through Baseline

Program Action Plan

The Undergraduate Programs Committee and the full departmental faculty met and decided on the following action plan:

- 1) Disseminate to all instructors the assessment rubric and an account of the strengths and weaknesses of students' papers by the above criterion.
- 2) Direct faculty attention to the following problems: Difficulty in fairly confronting and convincingly rebutting contrary positions.
- 3) Require all majors to complete at least one major course at the 4000 level or above.

Timeline for Action Plan Implementation

Goals for Spring/Summer 2018

- 1) Average of 3.0 or better of writing intensive papers for the 2.2 assessment outcome.
- 2) No more than 35% of writing intensive papers with a score below 2.5 for the 2.2 assessment outcome (60% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 2.2 assessment outcome in the 2016-2017 assessment period).

Reporting to Stakeholders

The results are imputed into Compliance Assist and posted on the department website.

Additional Information



3.1 : Assessment: Critical Judgment

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Providing Department: BA in Political Science

Assessment Method

The undergraduate Director, or other faculty member at his delegation, read a sample of Writing Intensive (PS 5993) papers and assigned a grade from 1 to 5 on each (5 as highest in quality and 1 lowest), deriving an overall average.

5 = proficient, appropriate to candidate for graduate or professional school

4 = strong

3 = satisfactory, appropriate to entry into the workforce as a college graduate

2 = marginal

1 = unsatisfactory for a college graduate

Criteria: The paper does not simply summarize the contributions of one source after another, but integrates those contributions into the author's distinctive analysis.

Results

3.2

Results from Surveys Delivered through Baseline

Program Action Plan

The Undergraduate Programs Committee and the full departmental faculty met and decided on the following action plan:

- 1) Disseminate to all instructors the assessment rubric and an account of the strengths and weaknesses of students' papers by the above criterion.
- 2) Require all majors to complete at least one major course at the 4000 level or above.

Timeline for Action Plan Implementation

Goals for Spring/Summer 2018

- 1) Average of 3.0 or better of writing intensive papers for the 3.1 assessment outcome.
- 2) No more than 25% of writing intensive papers with a score below 2.5 for the 3.1 assessment outcome (40% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 3.1 assessment outcome in the 2016-2017 assessment period).

Reporting to Stakeholders

The results are imputed into Compliance Assist and posted on the department website.

Additional Information



3.2: Assessment: Critical Judgment

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Providing Department: BA in Political Science

Assessment Method

The undergraduate Director, or other faculty member at his delegation, read a sample of Writing Intensive (PS 5993) papers and assigned a grade from 1 to 5 on each (5 as highest

in quality and 1 lowest), deriving an overall average.

5 = proficient, appropriate to candidate for graduate or professional school

4 = strong

3 = satisfactory, appropriate to entry into the workforce as a college graduate

2 = marginal

1 = unsatisfactory for a college graduate

Criteria: The paper anticipates and counters criticisms that can be made of the thesis and supporting evidence.

Results

2.4

Results from Surveys Delivered through Baseline

Program Action Plan

The Undergraduate Programs Committee and the full departmental faculty met and decided on the following action plan:

- 1) Disseminate to all instructors the new assessment rubric and an account of the strengths and weaknesses of students' papers by the above criterion.
- 2) Direct faculty attention to the following problems: Difficulty in confronting and convincingly rebutting contrary positions. 3) Require all majors to complete at least one major course at the 4000 level or above.

Timeline for Action Plan Implementation

Goals for Spring/Summer 2018

- 1) Average of 3.0 or better of writing intensive papers for the 3.2 assessment outcome.
- 2) No more than 35% of writing intensive papers with a score below 2.5 for the 3.2 assessment outcome (70% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 3.2 assessment outcome in the 2016-2017 assessment period).

Reporting to Stakeholders

The results are inputted into Compliance Assist and posted on the department website.

Additional Information



4.1: Assessment: Expression

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Providing Department: BA in Political Science

Assessment Method

The undergraduate Director, or other faculty member at his delegation, read a sample of Writing Intensive (PS 5993) papers and assigned a grade from 1 to 5 on each (5 as highest in quality and 1 lowest), deriving an overall average.

5 = proficient, appropriate to candidate for graduate or professional school

4 = strong

3 = satisfactory, appropriate to entry into the workforce as a college graduate

2 = marginal

1 = unsatisfactory for a college graduate

Criteria: The paper's introduction states a clear and meaningful thesis; the body of the essay is organized as an orderly progression; and a concluding section effectively sums up what the paper has demonstrated.

Results

3.5

Results from Surveys Delivered through Baseline**Program Action Plan**

The Undergraduate Programs Committee and the full departmental faculty met and decided on the following action plan:

- 1) Disseminate to all instructors the assessment rubric and an account of the strengths and weaknesses of students' papers by the above criterion.
- 2) Require all majors to complete at least one major course at the 4000 level or above.

Timeline for Action Plan Implementation

Goals for Spring/Summer 2018

- 1) Average of 3.0 or better of writing intensive papers for the 4.1 assessment outcome.
- 2) No more than 25% of writing intensive papers with a score below 2.5 for the 4.1 assessment outcome (20% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 4.1 assessment outcome in the 2016-2017 assessment period).

Reporting to Stakeholders

The results are imputed into Compliance Assist and posted on the department website.

Additional Information



4.2: Assessment: Expression

Start: 9/1/2016

End: 8/31/2017

Providing Department: BA in Political Science

Assessment Method

The undergraduate Director, or other faculty member at his delegation, read a sample of Writing Intensive (PS 5993) papers and assigned a grade from 1 to 5 on each (5 as highest in quality and 1 lowest), deriving an overall average.

5 = proficient, appropriate to candidate for graduate or professional school

4 = strong

3 = satisfactory, appropriate to entry into the workforce as a college graduate

2 = marginal

1 = unsatisfactory for a college graduate

Criteria: The paper is sound in paragraph structure, sentence structure, and word choice.

Results

3.0

Results from Surveys Delivered through Baseline

Program Action Plan

The Undergraduate Programs Committee and the full departmental faculty met and decided on the following action plan:

- 1) Disseminate to all instructors the assessment rubric and an account of the strengths and weaknesses of students' papers by the above criterion.
- 2) Require all majors to complete at least one major course at the 4000 level or above.

Timeline for Action Plan Implementation

Goals for Spring/Summer 2018

- 1) Average of 3.0 or better of writing intensive papers for the 4.2 assessment outcome.
- 2) No more than 25% of writing intensive papers with a score below 2.5 for the 4.2 assessment outcome (40% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 4.2 assessment outcome in the 2016-2017 assessment period).

Reporting to Stakeholders

The results are imputed into Compliance Assist and posted on the department website.

Additional Information