

# Program Assessment Plan Summary



**WAYNE STATE**  
**Department of**  
**Political Science**

## **BA in Political Science**

### **Mission Statement -- BA in Political Science**

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**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.

## **Research**

**Number:**

1

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**Learning Outcome Description:**

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

## **Appreciation of Multiple Perspectives**

**Number:**

2

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**Learning Outcome Description:**

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

**Critical Judgment**

**Number:**

3

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**Learning Outcome Description:**

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

**Expression**

**Number:**

4

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**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**

### **Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

### **Start:**

9/1/2018

### **End:**

8/30/2019

### **Attach Curriculum Map Here:**

BA\_Curriculum\_Map (9); PS BA Major Map

## **Assessment: Research**

### **Number:**

1.1

### **Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

### **Start:**

9/1/2018

### **End:**

8/30/2019

### **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 :**

4.1

### **Results from Campus Labs' "Baseline" Tool:**

#### **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 a minimum of two Political Science courses at the 3000 level or above before attempting the Writing Intensive requirement.
- 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 2020

- 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 (10% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 1.1 assessment outcome in the 2018-2019 assessment period).

#### **Reporting to Stakeholders:**

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

**Additional Information (OPTIONAL):**

**Assessment: Research**

**Number:**

1.2

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**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 :**

3.5

**Results from Campus Labs' "Baseline" Tool:**

**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 a minimum of two Political Science courses at the 3000 level or above before attempting the Writing Intensive requirement.
- 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 2020

- 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 (30% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 1.2 assessment outcome in the 2018-2019 assessment period).

**Reporting to Stakeholders:**

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

**Additional Information (OPTIONAL):****Assessment: Appreciation of Multiple Perspectives****Number:**

2.1

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**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 :**

3.3

**Results from Campus Labs' "Baseline" Tool:****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 a minimum of two Political Science courses at the 3000 level or above before attempting the Writing Intensive requirement.



4) 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 2020

- 1) Average of 3.0 or better of writing intensive papers for the 2.1 assessment outcome.
- 2) No more than 35% of writing intensive papers with a score below 2.5 for the 2.1 assessment outcome (20% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 2.1 assessment outcome in the 2018-2019 assessment period).

**Reporting to Stakeholders:**

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

**Additional Information (OPTIONAL):**

**Assessment: Appreciation of Multiple Perspectives**

**Number:**

2.2

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**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 :**

3.1

### **Results from Campus Labs' "Baseline" Tool:**

#### **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 a minimum of two Political Science courses at the 3000 level or above before attempting the Writing Intensive requirement.
- 4) 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 2020

- 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 (40% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 2.2 assessment outcome in the 2018-2019 assessment period).

**Reporting to Stakeholders:**

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

**Additional Information (OPTIONAL):****Assessment: Critical Judgment****Number:**

3.1

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**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 :**

4.3

**Results from Campus Labs' "Baseline" Tool:****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 a minimum of two Political Science courses at the 3000 level or above before attempting the Writing Intensive requirement.
- 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 2020

- 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 (0% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 3.1 assessment outcome in the 2018-2019 assessment period).

**Reporting to Stakeholders:**

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

**Additional Information (OPTIONAL):**

**Assessment: Critical Judgment  
Number:**

3.2

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**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 :**

2.9

**Results from Campus Labs' "Baseline" Tool:**

**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 confronting and convincingly rebutting contrary positions.
- 3) Require all majors to complete a minimum of two Political Science courses at the 3000 level or above before attempting the Writing Intensive requirement.
- 4) 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 2020

- 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 (30% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 3.2 assessment outcome in the 2018-2019 assessment period).

### **Reporting to Stakeholders:**

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

### **Additional Information (OPTIONAL):**

#### **Assessment: Expression**

##### **Number:**

4.1

##### **Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

##### **Start:**

9/1/2018

##### **End:**

8/30/2019

**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 Campus Labs' "Baseline" Tool:****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 a minimum of two Political Science courses at the 3000 level or above before attempting the Writing Intensive requirement.
- 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 2020

- 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 2018-2019 assessment period).

**Reporting to Stakeholders:**

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

**Additional Information (OPTIONAL):****Assessment: Expression****Number:**

4.2

**Providing Department:**

BA in Political Science

**Start:**

9/1/2018

**End:**

8/30/2019

**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 :**

4.2

### **Results from Campus Labs' "Baseline" Tool:**

#### **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 a minimum of two Political Science courses at the 3000 level or above before attempting the Writing Intensive requirement.
- 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 2020

- 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 (0% of students scored below a 2.5 on the 4.2 assessment outcome in the 2018-2019 assessment period).

**Reporting to Stakeholders:**

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

**Additional Information (OPTIONAL):**