

UNIT EFFECTIVENESS PROCESS
PHASE 1 – ASSESSMENT PLAN for STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
2006-2007

Unit Name: Political Science

Degree Program (For Academic Instructional Units)
Please use a separate Form B for each degree program
M.A. in Political Science

Student Competencies (Statements of knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviors that program majors should be able to demonstrate upon completion of the degree program.)
Students should demonstrate a competences to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate theories in particular political contexts.

Intended Outcome 1

Students will be able to produce a survey of the literature in a defined area.

Related Student Competency (If intended outcome is derived from student competency)

This review of the literature is the first step in the analysis of a particular theory as it would be applied to a specific context.

Action Steps to Achieve Intended Outcome

Faculty in graduate Political Science seminars will require students to produce a survey of the literature in an area of their interest related to that seminar.

Assessment Methodology

Include the following:

- *full description of the planned assessment activity*
- *the criteria for success*
- *the timetable for assessment activity*
- *responsible persons (by job title, not name) and specific duty*

A faculty committee will evaluate embedded assessment measures from graduate Political Science seminars on a ten-point scale designed to evaluate their ability to survey the literature in a particular area. All students should score at least 5 or above. The Department Graduate Advisor will be responsible for the assessment over a period of two years (2006-07).

Intended Outcome 2

Students will be able to create a research design to examine a specific hypothesis.

Related Student Competency (If intended outcome is derived from student competency)

The research design is the next step in the analysis of a particular theory.

Action Steps to Achieve Intended Outcome

Faculty in graduate Political Science seminars will require students to create a research design regarding a specific hypothesis in an area of their interest related to that seminar.

Assessment Methodology

Include the following:

- *full description of the planned assessment activity*
- *the criteria for success*
- *the timetable for assessment activity*
- *responsible persons (by job title, not name) and specific duty*

A faculty committee will evaluate embedded assessment measures from graduate Political Science seminars on a ten-point scale designed to evaluate their ability to produce a research design in a particular area. All students should score 5 or above. The Department Graduate Advisor will be responsible for the assessment over a period of two years (2006-07).

Intended Outcome 3

Students will be able to collect original data and to analyze data/information in order to reach a conclusion.

Related Student Competency (If intended outcome is derived from student competency)

This is the penultimate step in analysis and interpretation.

Action Steps to Achieve Intended Outcome

Faculty in graduate Political Science seminars will require students to analyze data regarding a specific hypothesis in an area of their interest related to that seminar.

Assessment Methodology

Include the following:

- *full description of the planned assessment activity*
- *the criteria for success*
- *the timetable for assessment activity*
- *responsible persons (by job title, not name) and specific duty*

A faculty committee will evaluate embedded assessment measures from graduate Political Science seminars on a ten-point scale designed to evaluate their ability to analyze data in a particular area. All students should score 5 or above. The Department Graduate Advisor will be responsible for the assessment over a period of two years (2006-07).

Intended Outcome 4

Related Student Competency (If intended outcome is derived from student competency)

Action Steps to Achieve Intended Outcome

Assessment Methodology

Include the following:

- *full description of the planned assessment activity*
 - *the criteria for success*
 - *the timetable for assessment activity*
 - *responsible persons (by job title, not name) and specific duty*
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Intended Outcome 5

Related Student Competency (If intended outcome is derived from student competency)

Action Steps to Achieve Intended Outcome

Assessment Methodology

Include the following:

- *full description of the planned assessment activity*
 - *the criteria for success*
 - *the timetable for assessment activity*
 - *responsible persons (by job title, not name) and specific duty*
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Intended Outcome 6

Related Student Competency (If intended outcome is derived from student competency)

Action Steps to Achieve Intended Outcome

Assessment Methodology

Include the following:

- *full description of the planned assessment activity*
- *the criteria for success*
- *the timetable for assessment activity*
- *responsible persons (by job title, not name) and specific duty*

Intended Outcome 7

Related Student Competency (If intended outcome is derived from student competency)

Action Steps to Achieve Intended Outcome

Assessment Methodology

Include the following:

- *full description of the planned assessment activity*
- *the criteria for success*
- *the timetable for assessment activity*
- *responsible persons (by job title, not name) and specific duty*

Intended Outcome 8

Related Student Competency (If intended outcome is derived from student competency)

Action Steps to Achieve Intended Outcome

Assessment Methodology

Include the following:

- *full description of the planned assessment activity*
- *the criteria for success*
- *the timetable for assessment activity*
- *responsible persons (by job title, not name) and specific duty*