



Annual Assessment Report for Academic Programs

The University Assessment Team advocates for the enhancement of student learning through purposeful, meaningful, and feasible student-outcomes assessment practices. The Assessment Team seeks to collaborate with programs, departments, and units to ensure that effective assessment of student learning occurs across the University. To assist in meeting this goal, the Team requests that you complete this Annual Assessment Report form to document student learning in your program. A PDF version of this completed form will be posted to the Academic Affairs Assessment website. Please note that this Annual Assessment Report form should only be completed after you have an Assessment Plan for Academic Programs forms on file with the University Assessment Team. The plan is completed once and only updated when revisions have been made to components of the plan.

1. **Degree Level and Program Name:** BA Political Science
2. **College/School:** College of Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences
3. **Assessment Overview** - Briefly share how student learning outcomes assessment is conducted within your program/department (e.g. number of outcomes, examples of assignments used, and frequency of assessment).

The BA Political Science Program has four learning outcomes. One outcome is assessed each year. Graduating seniors are required to take the Senior Seminar (POL 4990). Performance in the Senior Seminar is assessed to see how well political science majors meet the four program outcomes. The assessment is based on benchmark rubric measures for assignments including presentations, essays, a simulation and final research papers.

4. **Student Learning Outcomes & Benchmarks** -Which student learning outcome(s) from the assessment plan filed with the University Assessment Team is/are being reported on in this report? Include the corresponding benchmark(s) for each outcome.

Student Learning Outcome #2: Identify the major ideas and theories and their application to political movements, structures, and institutions in the United States and other countries (empirical). The benchmark for Student Learning Outcome #2 is all of the senior students earn a grade of 85% (B) or higher on a grading scale of 60 (D) to 100 (A) in the program learning outcome.

5. **Institutional Outcomes** - For which institutional outcome(s) do the reported student learning outcome(s) align?

SLO Outcome Alignment	Institutional Outcome
Yes	I. Jesuit & Mercy Values
Yes	II. Diversity & Cultural Awareness
Yes	III. Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
Yes	IV. Communication
Yes	V. Professionalism
Yes	VI. Lifelong Learning



6. **Assessment Period:** Select the academic year for which you are reporting results (i.e. when data were collected):
2024-2025
7. **Program Assessment Results** -Briefly summarize the assessment results and how they relate to benchmark(s).

Thirteen political science seniors were enrolled in the Senior Seminar. The benchmark (having all the students attain 85% (B) in meeting the learning outcome) was met by twelve students. These students demonstrated comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the major ideas and theories and their application to political movements, structures, and institutions in the United States and other countries in the assignments. This is 92% of all the students and above the benchmark for the group.

8. **Planned Actions and/or Actions Taken in Response to Assessment Results** - Briefly summarize how you are using the assessment results to enhance student learning and improve program quality.

In response to the assessment results, the department reviewed attendance records and student readiness to take the Senior Seminar. We plan to use our academic advising sessions to emphasize the importance of the seminar and why consistent attendance is important. We will also monitor the university's add/drop deadline more closely so students who are not meeting the required competencies at that point can be advised accordingly or provided with additional support.