

Date: August 8, 2006

Political Science Department Program Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete an Associate of Science Degree with an emphasis in Political Science will:

Political Science Learning Outcome	What SLCC Learning Outcome Does this match?	Outcomes Assessment Reporting
Be prepared for further study in Political Science or a related discipline at a four-year college or university.	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge	A survey of our Political Science graduates a year later, once they've taken some upper-level courses elsewhere.
Demonstrate in writing their understanding of key concepts, events and personalities relating to U.S. government.	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge, and LO #5: Develop the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged	The same data as collected for POLS 1100 course assessment.
Demonstrate in writing their understanding of key concepts, events and personalities relating to the history, expression, and importance of modern political ideologies.	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge, and LO #5: Develop the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged	The same data as collected for POLS 2300 course assessment.
Effectively communicate orally or in writing about key concepts in U. S. government, political ideologies, and international politics.	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge, and LO #2: Communicate effectively	The same data as collected for POLS 1100, POLS 2300, and POLS 2100 course assessments.
Use and interpret information represented as data, graphs, and tables to analyze politics, political behavior, and public policy at the state, national, and global level	LO #3: Develop quantitative literacy	The same data as collected for POLS 1100, POLS 2300, and POLS 2100 course assessments.
Demonstrate in writing their understanding of key aspects of critical thinking such as claims and evidence analysis, identification of fallacious argumentation, and abstraction.	LO #4: Think critically	The same data as collected for POLS 1100, POLS 2300 and POLS 2100 course assessments.

Learning Outcomes for POLS 1100: U. S. National Government and Politics

The main objective of this course is to help students attain a broad understanding of the institutions and practices of the U. S. government and political system. At the end of this course students should be able to:

Course Learning Outcome	What SLCC Learning Outcome Does This Match?	Department-Approved Educational Activities	Department-Approved Assessments for Grading	Outcomes Assessment Reporting
Demonstrate in writing their understanding of key concepts, events and personalities relating to the Constitutional foundations of U. S. government; to the major national-level governing institutions; to political behavior and linkage institutions; and to the civil liberties and civil rights of people living in the United States	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge, and LO #5: Develop the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned text and supplemental readings • Lectures • Class discussion • Group discussion • Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defined-item exams • Essay exams • Take-home essays 	Direct: Pre/post defined-item assessment quiz. Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.
Effectively communicate orally or in writing about the key concepts above or about other significant topics in U. S. politics.	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge, and LO #2: Communicate effectively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research training • Discussion of text and supplemental readings • Discussion of effective writing examples • Peer review of drafts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual or group oral presentations • Essay exams • Reading response papers • Research papers 	Direct: Common final essay with agreed-upon scoring rubric applied in sampled sections. Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.

Course Learning Outcome	What SLCC Learning Outcome Does This Match?	Department-Approved Educational Activities	Department-Approved Assessments for Grading	Outcomes Assessment Reporting
Use and interpret information represented as data, graphs, and tables to analyze political behavior, public policy, and/or the historical development of the U. S. political system.	LO#3: Develop quantitative literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigned data from texts, supplemental readings and handouts Class discussion Group discussion Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined-item exams Short essay questions Individual or group oral presentations 	<p>Direct: Embedded assignment across sampled sections</p> <p>Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.</p>
Demonstrate in writing their understanding of key aspects of critical thinking such as claims and evidence analysis, identification of fallacious argumentation, and abstraction within the context of the theory and/or practice of U. S. politics.	LO #4: Think critically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigned readings on aspects of critical thinking Class discussion Group discussion Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined-item exams Short essay questions Take-home essays 	<p>Direct: Embedded assignment across sampled sections with agreed-upon scoring rubric.</p> <p>Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.</p>
Have the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged.	LO #5: Develop the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigned text and supplemental readings Lectures Class discussion Group discussion Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined-item exams Short essay exams Take-home essays Service-learning journals Reflective essays 	<p>Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.</p>

Learning Outcomes for POLS 2300: Political Ideologies

The main objective of this course is to help students attain a broad understanding of modern political ideologies. At the end of this course students should be able to:

Course Learning Outcome	What SLCC Learning Outcome Does This Match?	Department-Approved Educational Activities	Department-Approved Assessments for Grading	Outcomes Assessment Reporting
Demonstrate in writing their understanding of key concepts, events and personalities relating to the history, expression and importance of modern political ideologies, with emphasis on liberalism, conservatism, socialism, fascism, and environmentalism.	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge, and LO #5: Develop the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned text and supplemental readings • Lectures • Class discussion • Group discussion • Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defined-item exams • Essay exams • Take-home essays 	Direct: Pre/post defined-item assessment quiz. Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.
Effectively communicate orally or in writing about the key concepts above or about other significant topics in political ideologies.	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge, and LO #2: Communicate effectively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research training • Discussion of text and supplemental readings • Discussion of effective writing examples • Peer review of drafts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual or group oral presentations • Essay exams • Reading response papers • Research papers 	Direct: Common final essay with agreed-upon scoring rubric applied in sampled sections. Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.

Course Learning Outcome	What SLCC Learning Outcome Does This Match?	Department-Approved Educational Activities	Department-Approved Assessments for Grading	Outcomes Assessment Reporting
Use and interpret information represented as data, graphs, and tables to analyze political behavior, public policy, and/or the historical development of modern political ideologies.	LO#3: Develop quantitative literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigned data from texts, supplemental readings and handouts Class discussion Group discussion Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined-item exams Short essay questions Individual or group oral presentations 	Direct: Embedded assignment across sampled sections Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.
Demonstrate in writing their understanding of key aspects of critical thinking such as claims and evidence analysis, identification of fallacious argumentation, and abstraction within the context of the political ideologies.	LO #4: Think critically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigned readings on aspects of critical thinking Class discussion Group discussion Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined-item exams Short essay questions Take-home essays 	Direct: Embedded assignment across sampled sections with agreed-upon scoring rubric. Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.
Have the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged.	LO #5: Develop the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigned text and supplemental readings Lectures Class discussion Group discussion Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined-item exams Short essay exams Take-home essays Service-learning journals Reflective essays 	Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.

Learning Outcomes for POLS 2100: Introduction to International Politics

The main objective of this course is to help students understand basic concepts, processes and relationships in the international political arena, with particular emphasis on conflict and cooperation between and among nation-states. At the end of this course students should be able to:

Course Learning Outcome	What SLCC Learning Outcome Does This Match?	Department-Approved Educational Activities	Department-Approved Assessments for Grading	Outcomes Assessment Reporting
Demonstrate in writing their understanding of key concepts, theories, events and personalities relating to the international political system, with emphasis on conflict and cooperation between and among nation-states.	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge, and LO #5: Develop the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assigned text and supplemental readings • Lectures • Class discussion • Group discussion • Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defined-item exams • Essay exams • Take-home essays 	Direct: Pre/post defined-item assessment quiz. Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.
Effectively communicate orally or in writing about the key concepts above or about other significant topics in political ideologies.	LO #1: Acquire substantive knowledge, and LO #2: Communicate effectively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research training • Discussion of text and supplemental readings • Discussion of effective writing examples • Peer review of drafts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual or group oral presentations • Essay exams • Reading response papers • Research papers 	Direct: Common final essay with agreed-upon scoring rubric applied in sampled sections. Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.

Course Learning Outcome	What SLCC Learning Outcome Does This Match?	Department-Approved Educational Activities	Department-Approved Assessments for Grading	Outcomes Assessment Reporting
Use and interpret information represented as data, graphs, and tables to analyze political behavior, public policy, and/or the historical development of the international political system.	LO#3: Develop quantitative literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigned data from texts, supplemental readings and handouts Class discussion Group discussion Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined-item exams Short essay questions Individual or group oral presentations 	<p>Direct: Embedded assignment across sampled sections</p> <p>Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.</p>
Demonstrate in writing their understanding of key aspects of critical thinking such as claims and evidence analysis, identification of fallacious argumentation, and abstraction within the context of the international politics.	LO #4: Think critically	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigned readings on aspects of critical thinking Class discussion Group discussion Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined-item exams Short essay questions Take-home essays 	<p>Direct: Embedded assignment across sampled sections with agreed-upon scoring rubric.</p> <p>Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.</p>
Have the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged.	LO #5: Develop the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assigned text and supplemental readings Lectures Class discussion Group discussion Active-learning exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defined-item exams Short essay exams Take-home essays Service-learning journals Reflective essays 	<p>Indirect: Student self-assessment survey in sampled sections.</p>