

Assessment: Assessment Plan

Degree Program - AS - Political Science (BA)

CIP Code: 45.1001.00

Degree Program Coordinator: Timothy Nokken

Degree Program Coordinator Email: timothy.nokken@ttu.edu

Degree Program Coordinator Phone: (806) 834-2988

Degree Program Coordinator Mail Stop: 1015

Program Purpose Statement: The political science curriculum is designed to provide students with a solid foundation and broad understanding of the discipline of political science and allow them to specialize in areas of particular substantive interest. Political science provides excellent instruction for students interested in politics, law, journalism, teaching, or civil service. Insight into political values, domestic policy issues, and foreign policy are invaluable for students interested in such careers as well as for careers in business.

Modality: Fully Online (86-99% Online), Face-to-Face, Electronic-to-Group, Off Campus Face-to-Face

Student Learning Outcome: Knowledge of American Political System_1

Demonstrate considerable knowledge of the structures and processes of the American political system.

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Student Learning

Start Date: 07/01/2015

Assessment Methods

Exam - select test bank questions from POLS 1301 on the American Presidency (Active)

Criterion: students should be able to answer 85% correctly

Exam - select test bank questions from POLS 1301 on the United States Congress (Active)

Criterion: students should be able to answer 85% correctly

Exam - selected text bank questions on the American Bureaucracy from POLS 1301 (Active)

Criterion: students should be able to answer 85% correctly

Student Learning Outcome: Compare Political Systems_1

Students must demonstrate knowledge of the political systems from different countries, democratic vs. non-democratic.

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Student Learning

Start Date: 07/01/2015

Assessment Methods

Exam - selected test bank questions on authoritarian vs. democratic systems from POLS 3371 (Active)

Criterion: 85% of students should answer correctly

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Exam - selected test bank questions on communist versus democratic political systems from POLS 3371 (Active)

Criterion: 85% of students should answer correctly

Exam - selected test bank questions on consociational versus majoritarian democratic political systems from POLS 3371 (Active)

Criterion: students should answer 85% correctly

Student Learning Outcome: Understand International System_1

Demonstrate a complex understanding of the international system and how states and transnational actors operate within it.

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Student Learning

Start Date: 07/01/2015

Assessment Methods

Exam - selected text bank questions on realism versus idealism in the international system from POLS 3361 (Active)

Criterion: students should answer 85% correctly

Exam - selected test bank questions on the causes of civil and interstate conflict from POLS 3361 (Active)

Criterion: 85% of students should answer correctly

Exam - selected test bank questions on state versus non-state actors in international relations from POLS 3361. (Active)

Criterion: 85% of students should answer correctly

Student Learning Outcome: Understand Judicial System_1

Understand the structure of the American judicial system and its basic operation.

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Program

Start Date: 07/01/2015

Assessment Methods

Exam - selected text bank questions on supreme court processes from POLS 1301 (Active)

Criterion: 85% of students should answer correctly

Exam - selected test bank questions on the judicial review and the powers of the Supreme Court from POLS 3351 (Active)

Criterion: 85% of students should answer correctly

Exam - selected test bank questions on the structure of the American Judicial System, Federal, State and Local, from POLS 3351 (Active)

Criterion: 85% of students should answer correctly

Student Learning Outcome: Assess research validity_1

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Assess the validity of research methods used by political science scholars.

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Student Learning

Start Date: 07/01/2015

Assessment Methods

Exam - selected test bank questions on measures of central tendency and dispersion in POLS 3310 (Active)

Criterion: 85% of students should answer correctly

Exam - selected test bank questions on measures of variable relations for nominal, ordinal, and interval data from POLS 3310. (Active)

Criterion: 85% of students should answer correctly

Essays - an essay that demonstrates student ability to retrieve, analysis, and discuss statistical results as applied to a political problem as required in POLS 3310 (Active)

Criterion: Students should receive an grade of 85% or better

Student Learning Outcome: Knowledge of specific field(s)

Students will demonstrate an in-depth knowledge of concepts, literature and research traditions in at least one field of Political Science.

Outcome Status: Active

Outcome Type: Student Learning

Start Date: 07/01/2006

Assessment Methods

Course Level Assessment - All students submit an annual self-evaluation during each spring semester describing their course performance, professional activities, and progress to date toward the M.A. These annual evaluations are reviewed each spring by the department's Graduate Affairs Committee and the Director of Political Science Graduate Programs. From these annual self-evaluations the Committee and Director determine which students have, and which have not, met the expected outcomes (Active)