

## Program of Study Learning Outcomes Assessment Report

Version 05.09.22

Assessment Cycle	2021-2022
Program of Study	Political Science
Department	HPSS
Date of Departmental Approval	10/26/22
Name of Submitter	David Beer

*PLO data from the current assessment cycle (and relevant data from one or more prior years) for the program of study were distributed to departmental faculty on the date(s) below:*

**Data Distribution Date(s):** \_\_\_10/10/22\_\_\_\_\_

*The relevant group of instructors met on the date(s) below to discuss the data, identify strengths and challenges, formulate action steps for responding to the challenges, and communicating strengths to relevant audiences.*

**Meeting Date(s):** \_\_\_10/26/22\_\_\_\_\_

**Participants** in the meeting(s) were: David Beer, Scott Waalkes

### Mission Statement

### Program Goals

*These are broad goals rather than specific, measurable learning outcomes.*

### Strengths in Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

Wording of PLO for Strength #1: Students will demonstrate knowledge of each of the four sub-fields of political science.

Students consistently meet the standard of 100% receiving a B or above in POL 201, POL 212, POL 267, and POL 301.

Wording of PLO for Strength #2: Students will demonstrate the capacity to analyze politics and government from a biblical and theological perspective.

Program external reviewers in 2022 identified faith integration as a program strength.

In addition, students consistently meet the standard of a “B” grade or better on the paper in POL 363: Political Theology.

### **Challenges in Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)**

Wording of PLO for Challenge #1: Students will demonstrate knowledge of each of the four sub-fields of political science.

Given that students consistently meet the standard set, and the declining likelihood of our students pursuing graduate school, we are not sure that it still makes sense to orient our program towards covering the four sub-fields of political science. This “coverage model” is focused more on the content being covered than on demonstrated student learning outcomes.

### **Action Steps to Respond to Key Challenges**

In response to our external program review in 2022 and our data assessment, we intend to submit a curricular proposal that moves the political science program away from the program goal of covering the four sub-fields of political science. Developing this proposal would require us to reformulate our first program learning goal and may lead to adjusting curricular offerings such as removing or not offering POL 267: Comparative Politics.

### **Recording Strengths and Challenges for Institutional-Level Assessment**

Copy and paste 2 key strengths and 1 key challenge for this program of study into the [Mapping PLOs to MU Educational Goals](#) Google Sheet.

Identification of a key strength or key challenge should be based on the quantity, quality, and trends in the evidence of student learning. Only share and map PLOs for which the evidence clearly and compellingly indicates a strength or challenge in student learning.

### **Naming and Submitting the Report**

Each department will submit one or more **Program of Study** Learning Outcomes Assessment Reports (see Appendix A for a list of programs of study)

- Length of report is 2 to 3 pages
- Follow this example to name your file: 2022 Bus Tech -- Accounting LOA Report
- Save report in PDF format
- Email PDF attachment to Sara Burke ([sburke@malone.edu](mailto:sburke@malone.edu)), Director of Institutional Reporting and Data Management OR submit via Google Folder.

