



Program: Political Science

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Date (Date/Cycle of Assessment): Fall 2016 (2015-16 cycle)

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Political Science Program is to provide students with an education based on the four sub-fields of the discipline (Political Theory, American Politics, Comparative Politics, and International Relations), to develop students' research and writing skills, and to provide students with the tools to analyze politics and government from a biblical and theological perspective, so that they can develop in intellectual maturity, wisdom, and Christian faith; and so that they can serve the church, community, and world.

Program Goals:

Goal 1: Provide an education based on the four sub-fields of the discipline (Political Theory, American Politics, Comparative Politics, and International Relations)

Goal 2: Develop research and writing skills

Goal 3: Provide students with the tools to analyze politics and government from a biblical and theological perspective.

Program Intended Learning Outcomes (PILO)	Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success	Summary of Data Collected	Use of Results
<p>Students will demonstrate knowledge of each of the four sub-fields of political science (in line with Goal 1)</p>	<p><u>First Means of Assessment:</u> Political Science Comprehensive Exam, Questions 1 and 2 (localized, direct measures, criterion-based for students completing the program)</p> <p><u>Criteria for success:</u> Achievement by students of a 2, 3, or 4 on the rubric for questions 1 and 2</p>	<p>100% (3 of 3 students) met the criteria for success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 students achieved a Pass with Honors (received a 4 on the rubric); • 3 students achieved a Pass (received a 3 on the rubric); • 0 students achieved a Pass with Conditions (received a 2 on the rubric); • 0 students fell below expectations or scored a Fail (1 on the rubric). 	<p>This was the first cohort of students that entered the program and spent four years with the current faculty and the first time we had a 100% passage rate without any conditions.</p>
<p>[Goal 1, Four sub-fields]</p>	<p><u>Second Means of Assessment:</u> Grades on papers from POL 301, POL 367, one of the courses in International Relations (331, 347, or 357), and one of the courses in American Politics (305, 316, or 325)</p> <p><u>Criteria for success:</u> B or above.</p>	<p>For the 3 students across 4 papers [n=12], the standard was achieved in 100% of cases [12/12]*</p>	<p>The political science faculty revised this measure in 2015 when it became clear that gathering a portfolio of papers and developing a rubric was too cumbersome for so few students.</p> <p>A grade of B or better on a paper in each course will be sufficient to demonstrate success.</p>

[Goal 1, Four sub-fields]	<p><u>Third Means of Assessment:</u> Grades in POL 201 (or AP scores), POL 212, POL 301, and POL 367</p> <p><u>Criteria for success:</u> achievement by 100% of student cohort of a B (3.0) or above in the courses (or a 3 or above on the AP exam for POL 201)</p>	<p>For the 3 students across 4* courses [n=11], the standard was achieved in % of cases [11/11]</p>	<p>*One student transferred credit for POL 201, so doesn't factor into the total sample size (n).</p>
<p>Students will demonstrate aptitude in research methods and writing proficiency (in line with Goal 2).</p>	<p><u>First Means of Assessment:</u> Final paper for POL 460, Senior Seminar (direct measure, criterion-based for students completing the program)</p> <p><u>Criteria for success:</u> achievement by 100% of student cohort of a B (84%) or above on the POL 460 paper.</p>	<p>100% (3/3) students met the criteria for success.</p> <p>0% (0/3 students) did not meet the criteria for success.</p>	
[Goal 2, Research and writing proficiency]	<p><u>Second Means of Assessment:</u> POL 363, Political Theology final paper (direct measure, criterion-based for students completing the program)</p> <p><u>Criteria for success:</u> achievement by students of B (84%) or above on the paper</p>	<p>100% (2/2 students)* met the criteria for success.</p> <p>0% (0/2 students) did not meet the criteria for success.</p>	<p>*One student is a December graduate, and is currently taking POL 363, so is not included in sample size (n).</p>
<p>Students will demonstrate the capacity to analyze politics and government from a biblical and theological perspective (in line with Goal 3).</p>	<p><u>First Means of Assessment:</u> Political Science Comprehensive Exam, Question 3 (localized, direct measure, criterion-based for students completing the program)</p> <p><u>Criteria for success:</u> achievement by students of a 2, 3, or 4 on the rubric for question 3</p>	<p>100% (3/3 students) met expectations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 students achieved a High Pass (received a 4 on the rubric); • 3 students achieved a Pass (received a 3 on the rubric); • 0 students achieved 	<p>The wording on Question 3 was clarified to ask students to “refer to scripture.” This may help explain better performance on this Outcome.</p>

		<p>a Conditional Pass (received a 2 on the rubric);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 students achieved a Fail (received a 1 on the rubric) 	
<p>[Goal 3, Analyze with biblical and theological perspectives]</p>	<p><u>Second Means of Assessment:</u> POL 363, Political Theology final paper (direct measure, criterion-based for students completing the program)</p> <p><u>Criteria for success:</u> achievement by students of B (84%) or above on the paper</p>	<p>100% (3/3 students) met the criteria for success.</p> <p>0% (0/3 students) did not meet the criteria for success.</p>	