



**Program: Political Science**

**Assessed by: Scott Waalkes and David Beer**

**Date (Date/Cycle of Assessment): Fall 2017 (2016-17 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.**

<b>Program Intended Learning Outcomes (PILO)</b>	<b>Means of Program Assessment &amp; Criteria for Success</b>	<b>Summary of Data Collected</b>	<b>Use of Results</b>
<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"> <li>• 0 students achieved a Pass with Honors (received a 4 on the rubric);</li> <li>• 2 students achieved a Pass (received a 3 on the rubric);</li> <li>• 1 students achieved a Pass with Conditions (received a 2 on the rubric);</li> <li>• 0 students fell below expectations or scored a Fail (1 on the rubric).</li> </ul>	
<p><b>[Goal 1, Four sub-fields]</b></p>	<p><u>Second Means of Assessment:</u> Grades from POL 301, POL 267, 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 courses [n=11]*, the standard was achieved in 91% of cases [ 10/11]</p>	<p>*one student did not take an upper-level International Relations course because it was not required to meet graduation requirements.</p>

<p><b>[Goal 1, Four sub-fields]</b></p>	<p><u>Third Means of Assessment:</u> Grades in POL 201 (or AP scores), POL 212, POL 301, and POL 267</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=12], the standard was achieved in % of cases [12/12]</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>67% (2/3 students) met the criteria for success.</p> <p>33% (1/3 students) did not meet the criteria for success.</p>	
<p><b>[Goal 2, Research and writing proficiency]</b></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>	
<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"> <li>• 0 students achieved a High Pass (received a 4 on the rubric);</li> <li>• 2 students achieved a Pass (received a 3 on the rubric);</li> <li>• 1 students achieved a Conditional Pass (received a 2 on the rubric);</li> </ul>	<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>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0 students achieved a Fail (received a 1 on the rubric)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>[Goal 3, Analyze with biblical and theological perspectives]</b></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>	