

**Undergraduate Degree Program Assessment Plan Cover Sheet  
(rev. 07):**

**UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK** Plan No.

Degree Program: Political Science

Department and College: Political Science CAHSS

Degree type (AA, AS, **BA**, BS, BBA, BSE, BSW): **BA**

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Submitted to College Assessment Committee on March 5, 2007

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted to Provost Assessment Advisory Group on Approved on \_\_\_\_\_

Respond to all four questions, following the Degree Program Assessment Plan Form Instructions. Attach additional pages as needed.

**1. What are your student learning goals for this degree program? Include which core competencies are addressed by these goals where applicable.**

Political science is a broad discipline that includes historical, philosophical, legal, and analytical studies of government, politics, and public policies. The department requires majors to take at least one course in each of four fields of the discipline: American Political Institutions and Processes, Normative Political Theory, Constitutional Law, and International Relations/Comparative Politics. The Undergraduate Catalog states that “The mission of the department is to maximize students’ capacity to analyze, interpret, and evaluate political events and governmental processes” The educational goals for students flow directly from the nature of the discipline, the field requirements, and the mission statement of the department:

1. Provide students with substantive knowledge about government and politics in the United States and globally (includes the core competencies of historical consciousness, international awareness, social and cultural awareness, and ethical and moral consciousness).

2. Improve the ability of students to analyze, interpret, and explain political events and governmental processes (includes the core competencies of critical thinking and verbal literacy).

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**2. What are your learning objectives or outcomes associated with each student learning goal?**

Goal I: Understand government and politics in the U.S. and globally.

1. Students demonstrate a meaningful level of substantive knowledge of American political institutions and processes
2. Students demonstrate a meaningful level of substantive knowledge of the major concepts and issues of normative political theory
3. Students demonstrate a meaningful knowledge of the major cases, concepts and issues of constitutional law
4. Students demonstrate a meaningful level of substantive knowledge of the major concepts and issues of international relations and comparative politics

Goal II: Analyze, interpret, and explain political events and governmental processes

5. Students demonstrate the ability to ask meaningful questions about government and politics, discover the necessary information, effectively analyze the information, and communicate the results in a clear and meaningful manner.

**3. Where will the objectives be addressed in your program? In which courses and through which activities will they be assessed? (Attach Curriculum Assessment Map.)**

The objectives will be addressed in the courses listed for each of the four required fields of American Political Institutions and Processes, Normative Political Theory, Constitutional Law, and International Relations/Comparative Politics.

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**Curriculum Assessment Map: Degree Program Assessment**

**Emphasis: Extensive Somewhat Little None**

<b>Assessed: Exam Paper Project Other Not Assessed</b>						
<b>Goal I Goal II</b>						
<b>Courses and Activities</b>	<b>How Outcomes are Addressed and Assessed</b>	<b>Outcome # 1</b>	<b>Outcome # 2</b>	<b>Outcome # 3</b>	<b>Outcome# 4</b>	<b>Outcom 5:</b>
American Political Institutions and Processes Courses: 3300, 3305, 3310, 3320, 3325, 4310, 4320, & 4301	Emphasis:  Assessed:	Extensive  Exams, papers and questionnaires	None  Not assessed	None  Not assessed	None  Not assessed	None  Not assessed
Normative Political Theory Courses:  3390, 4380 and 4390	Emphasis:  Assessed:	None  Not assessed	Extensive  Exams, papers and questionnaires	None  Not assessed	None  Not assessed	None  Not assessed
Con Law Courses: 4350 and 4351	Emphasis:  Assessed:	Somewhat  Exams	None  Not assessed	Extensive  Exams, papers and questionnaires	None  Not assessed	None  Not assessed

International Relations/  Comparative Politics 3360, 3370 and 4340	Emphasis:  Assessed:	None  Not assessed	None  Not assessed	None  Not assessed	Extensive  Exams, papers and questionnaires