

2024 Academic Program Assessment Report

Program current assessment plan here:

Program prior assessment report here:

https://www.csupueblo.edu/assessment-and-student-learning/_doc/2021/2021-assessment-plans/political-science-assessmen

https://www.csupueblo.edu/assessment-and-student-learning/_doc/2023/political-science-assessment-report-2023.pdf

Report Completed By:	Ryan Strickler		
Date Report Completed:	May 28, 2024		
Faculty members involved in this Assessment:	Ryan Strickler		

Please describe this year's assessment activities and follow-up for your program below. (Separate sheet for each undergraduate major, stand-Brief Statement of Program

Mission and Goals:

The major in political science leads to the degrees of Bachelors of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS). The political science curriculum focuses heavily on the development of analytical and communication skills - along with a comprehensive knowledge of public policy, politics, current events, and history - and as such prepares undergraduates for a wide range of careers in the private, public, and non-profit sectors. Courses in political science also serve to compliment the liberal arts core at CSU-Pueblo and to prepare students for acceptance into graduate and professional programs. The program goals are to produce student that can: 1) Demonstrate a basic understanding of historical, philosophical and empirical foundations of political science; 2) Demonstrate a general command of knowledge about the American political system, global studies, the history of political thought, and standard political science research approaches; and 3) Demonstrate an ability to continue personal study and

learning on an independent basis about specific subjects in the discipline.

I. Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) in this cycle. Including

A. Your program SLOs are	B. When was this SLO	C. What method	D. Who was	E. What is the expected	F. What were the results of	G. What were the	H. What
pasted here verbatim from	last reported on prior	was used for	assessed? Please	proficiency level and how	the assessment? (Include the	department's	changes/improvemen
your assessment plan. Please	to this cycle?	assessing the SLO?	fully describe the	many or what proportion of	proportion of students	conclusions about	ts to the program are
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for those assessed during this		copy of any rubrics	the number of	level?		performance?	this assessment?
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Writing Outcome: Students should be able to								
write papers on topics in political science that								
(a) exhibit clear prose and correct grammar								
and (b) present a central argument in a clear								
and coherent structure or fashion.	and coherent structure or fashion.							

Comments on part I:

In addition to the teaching with our general ed, core, and elective courses, our program has actively expanded its experiential learning opportunities, including opportunities for independent research (POLS 492), internships in the public and nonprofit sector (POLS 498), and community and local government engagement through our new SOCO Center for Public Policy and Affairs. These growing endeavors only add to our ability to achieve the SLOs discussed above.

A. What SLO(s) or other issues did you address in this cycle? Please include SLOs verbatim from the assessment plan, as above.	B. When was this SLO last assessed to generate the data which informed the change? Please indicate the semester and year.	C. What were the recommendations for change from the previous assessment column H and/or feedback?	D. How were the recommendations for change acted upon?	E. What were the results of the changes? If the changes were not effective, what are the next steps or the new recommendations?
Knowledge Outcomes - 1: Students should have factual knowledge of many aspects of politics and government that are central objects of study in each of the subfields in political science (American politics, comparative politics, international relations, and political theory). 2. Students should be able to explain core debates (or scholarly theories and perspectives) in the subfields of political science.	Spring 2023	These outcomes were assessed last cycle, and they did not identify any need for major changes.	NA .	See comment below
Writing Outcome: Students should be able to write papers on topics in political science that (a) exhibit clear prose and correct grammar and (b) present a central argument in a clear and coherent structure or fashion.	Spring 2023	This outcome was assessed last cycle, and it did not identify any need for major changes.	NA	See comment below

Comments on part II:

In order to further achieve our knowledge SLOs, in addition to the establishment of the SOCO center (discussed in the comment to part 1), we have added new courses, and plan to continue to add new courses, to our curriculum. This includes bringing a Politics and Pop Culture class in fall 2023, bringing back our Race and Ethnic Politics class in fall 2024 (after a mutit-year hiatus), and teaching a Latino Politics class next academic year. With these courses, we will be able to teach a wider array of knowledge to our majors. What's more, we also got our State and Local Politics course approved as a general education course. This will allow us to provide knowledge in this vital subfield to more students at our university.

With regards to writing, our faculty have had regular conversations regarding revising our assignments and expectation in the face of generative AI. Faculty have also regularly participated in events and workshops hosted by the Library and other organizations on campus. The result of this discussion and participation has been to refine and add more detail to writing prompts, create more iterative writing assignments, and (further) emphasize thorough, and accurate, research and sourcing with writing projects. This, certainly, will be an ongoing conversation with regard to how we can have the most success with our writing outcome.

Also, we completed a five-year program review during the 2023-2024 academic year. A Degree Program Action Plan will be written up based on this by the end of June 2024. For next year's program review, we will be able to provide an update on the challenges, and successes, we have experienced in pursuing our Action Plan.