

BA/BA in Political Science

Annual Program Report Template

Year:	2023
Program:	Political Science
Contact Person (include email & phone#)	Dr. Thomas E. Sowers II Thomas.sowers@lamar.edu (409) 880-8539

Summary of Continuous Improvement Efforts since Last Report

Respond here:

The data from assessment is used to make both large and small changes in the curriculum. The majority of these changes are small changes that are embedded in classes. Larger changes are the changes to the curriculum as a whole. The two critical points of the data were a deficiency in the comparative subfield, and issues with data collect in the research process. The problem with the comparative subfield will be addressed by integrating new personnel into the program and revising the subfield curriculum. Our new hire has piloted one new course and has developed a second to be deployed in the future. The smaller issue on research productivity and data collection has been addressed by how material is presented in POLS 1301, POLS 2351 and POLS 3352, which is the methods sequence for the program. We continually look for weaknesses in the research process even when we achieve our target and adjust our courses to meet those deficiencies before they become problems.

Program Highlights Since Last Report

Items have been added or emphasized in POLS 1301, POLS 2351, and POLS 3352.

Table 1. Assessment Results and Analyses for Current Cycle.

STAGE 1: PLAN				STAGE 2: DO		STAGE 3: STUDY
Departmental Student Learning Goal	Program Student Learning Outcome	Assessment	Assessment Method/Location	Benchmark Expectations	Data Results	Actions/Goals Based on Data Results* What do the data tell you? How will you use this data? How were data from the last cycle used to make changes during this cycle, and What were the results of those changes?
The departmental goal is to provide a curriculum that provides a well-rounded exposure to the five subfield of political science.	<p>Graduating seniors majoring in Political Science will have acquired basic knowledge and understanding of the substantive fields of the discipline (American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Public Administration, and Research Methodology). Gaining basic knowledge and understanding of the substantive fields of the discipline equips student variety of career paths</p>					

from the freshman to the senior level and provides valuable learning outcome assessment data over time.

faculty in the Department of Political Science as referred to in Measurement 1 above.

Political Science as an exit examination

			conducted by comparing the overall examination performance of incoming freshmen with that of graduating seniors. The entrance/exit exams are under project attachments.			

Table 2. Continuous Improvement Results Since Last Report

Stage 4: ACT		
Actions/Goals Based on Data Results	Status	Discussion of Status