

**Annual Program Report  
2022-2023**

**The report(s) should be inclusive of all levels, degrees (i.e. certificates, bachelor's and master's), modalities and locations.**

Department: Department of Economics, History, & Political Science

Department Chair: Dr. Paul Weizer

Department Assessment Committee Contact: Dr. Joshua Spero

*This document is to be kept in the department and an electronic file is due to the AVP of Institutional Research and Planning by June 1, 2023.*

**Section I: Program Assessment** (please complete this section for each program in your department)

Program: Political Science

**A. Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) (Educational Objectives)**

**I. List of PLOs and the timeline for assessment**

PLO #	PLO – Stated in assessable terms	Where are the learning outcomes for this level/program published? (please specify) Include URLs where appropriate.	Timing of assessment (annual, semester, bi-annual, etc.)	When was the last assessment of the PLO completed?
1.	<b>POLITICAL SCIENCE KNOWLEDGE: Demonstrates evidence of comprehension of Political Science knowledge</b>	Annual / Fall	2023 (see attached 2022-2023 Assessment Matrix)	2022

2.	<b>POLITICAL SCIENCE REASONING AND ARGUMENTATION:</b> Demonstrates evidence of comprehension of Political Science reasoning and argumentation	Annual / Fall	2023 (see attached 2022-2023 Assessment Matrix)	2022
3.	<b>POLITICAL SCIENCE METHODOLOGY:</b> Demonstrates evidence of comprehension of Political Science methodology	Annual / Fall	2023 (see attached 2022-2023 Assessment Matrix)	2022
4.	<b>POLITICAL SCIENCE THEORY:</b> Demonstrates evidence of knowledge of Political Science theory	Annual / Fall	2023 (see attached 2022-2023 Assessment Matrix)	2022
5.				

II. **PLO Assessment** (Please report on the PLOs assessed and/or reviewed this year. Programs should be assessing at least one each year.)

Using the table below, list and briefly describe the **direct method(s)** used to collect information assessing whether students are learning the core sets of knowledge (K), skills (S) and attitudes (A) identified as essential.

<b>PLO # (from above)</b>	<b>Assessment description (exam, observation, national standardized exam, oral presentation with rubric, etc.)</b>	<b>When assessment was administered in student program (internship, 4<sup>th</sup> year, 1<sup>st</sup> year, etc.)</b>	<b>To which students were assessments administered (all, only a sample, etc.)</b>	<b>What is the target set for the PLO? (criteria for success)</b>	<b>Reflection on the results: How was the “loop closed”?</b>

1	<p>Assessment of Political Science “Knowledge” consists of a portfolio via the TK20 online database. The submissions entailed: one attachment for the portfolio "artifact" typically from an upper-level Political Science course (2000+ level), fulfilling that course's requirement: course exam, paper, memorandum, report, case brief, or appellate brief. The other attached document provided three-four in-depth paragraphs reflecting how this selected Political Science portfolio’s artifact demonstrated <u>student’s mastery</u> of this specific Political Science category's skill set.</p>	4 <sup>th</sup> year	Fall 2022 Political Science Capstone Seminar (11 students)	90% meet or exceed standard	<p>Implementation of key guidelines, per agreement by the three Political Scientists – and maintained since 2021, resulted in a slight decline of artifact quality generally for the student TK20 portfolio documentation. As a result, the three Political Scientists determined a new experimental artifact process to implement in the fall’s 2023 Capstone Seminar. This new assessment approach will focus solely on the student’s comprehensive and analytical “Self-Reflection,” involving a methodical and very structured essay to demonstrate how the student believed proficiency improved in each Political Science rubric. The essay will integrate several crucial categories for how this rubric demonstrates the student’s mastery of this category’s skill set. This envisions each student combining explanation for improvement from introductory to upper-level course work – and anticipates providing more comprehensive student self-assessment by faculty to rate.</p>
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2	<p>Assessment of Political Science “Reasoning &amp; Argumentation” consists of a portfolio via the TK20 online database. The submissions entailed: one attachment for the portfolio "artifact" from an upper-level Political Science course (2000+ level), fulfilling that course's requirement: course exam, paper, memorandum, report, case brief, or appellate brief. The other attached document provided three-four in-depth paragraphs reflecting how this selected Political Science portfolio’s artifact demonstrated <u>student’s mastery</u> of this specific Political Science category's skill set.</p>	4 <sup>th</sup> year	Fall 2022 Political Science Capstone Seminar (11 students)	92.2% meet or exceed standard	<p>Implementation of key guidelines, per agreement by the three Political Scientists – and maintained since 2021, resulted in a slight decline of artifact quality generally for the student TK20 portfolio documentation. As a result, the three Political Scientists determined a new experimental artifact process to implement in the fall’s 2023 Capstone Seminar. This new assessment approach will focus solely on the student’s comprehensive and analytical “Self-Reflection,” involving a methodical and very structured essay to demonstrate how the student believed proficiency improved in each Political Science rubric. The essay will integrate several crucial categories for how this rubric demonstrates the student’s mastery of this category’s skill set. This envisions each student combining explanation for improvement from introductory to upper-level course work – and anticipates providing more comprehensive student self-assessment by faculty to rate.</p>
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<p>3</p>	<p>Assessment of Political Science “Methodology” consists of a portfolio via the TK20 online database. The submissions entailed: one attachment for the portfolio "artifact" from an upper-level Political Science course (2000+ level), fulfilling that course's requirement: methodological calculations and analysis or Research Methods proposal. The other attached document provided three-four in-depth paragraphs reflecting how this selected Political Science portfolio’s artifact demonstrated <u>student’s mastery</u> of this specific Political Science category's skill set.</p>	<p>4<sup>th</sup> year</p>	<p>Fall 2022 Political Science Capstone Seminar (11 students)</p>	<p>82.2% meet or exceed standard</p>	<p>Implementation of key guidelines, per agreement by the three Political Scientists – and maintained since 2021, resulted in a slight decline of artifact quality generally for the student TK20 portfolio documentation. As a result, the three Political Scientists determined a new experimental artifact process to implement in the fall’s 2023 Capstone Seminar. This new assessment approach will focus solely on the student’s comprehensive and analytical “Self-Reflection,” involving a methodical and very structured essay to demonstrate how the student believed proficiency improved in each Political Science rubric. The essay will integrate several crucial categories for how this rubric demonstrates the student’s mastery of this category’s skill set. This envisions each student combining explanation for improvement from introductory to upper-level course work – and anticipates providing more comprehensive student self-assessment by faculty to rate.</p>
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4	<p>Assessment of Political Science “Theory” consists of a portfolio via the TK20 online database. The submissions entailed: one attachment for the portfolio "artifact" from an upper-level Political Science course (2000+ level), fulfilling that course's requirement: Capstone Seminar’s extended &amp; annotated Literature Review, or other course analysis, such as exam, assessment, or paper. The other attached document provided three-four in-depth paragraphs reflecting how this selected Political Science portfolio’s artifact demonstrated <u>student’s mastery of this specific Political Science category's skill set.</u></p>	4 <sup>th</sup> year	Fall 2022 Political Science Capstone Seminar (11 students)	91.1% meet or exceed standard	<p>Implementation of key guidelines, per agreement by the three Political Scientists – and maintained since 2021, resulted in a slight decline of artifact quality generally for the student TK20 portfolio documentation. As a result, the three Political Scientists determined a new experimental artifact process to implement in the fall’s 2023 Capstone Seminar. This new assessment approach will focus solely on the student’s comprehensive and analytical “Self-Reflection,” involving a methodical and very structured essay to demonstrate how the student believed proficiency improved in each Political Science rubric. The essay will integrate several crucial categories for how this rubric demonstrates the student’s mastery of this category’s skill set. This envisions each student combining explanation for improvement from introductory to upper-level course work – and anticipates providing more comprehensive student self-assessment by faculty to rate.</p>
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*You may use this comment box to provide any additional information, if applicable:*

Organization of the TK20 portfolios maintained the important template from 2021 as the Capstone Seminar Professor and FSU Assessment Director coordinated during the past year to continue simplifying TK20 database process, particularly reducing steps needed to structure data and decreasing ways students needed to submit documentation. Portfolio process continued ease of review and, via required artifact and self-reflection standards, as student submissions provided baselines for Political Scientists to assess. However, the 2022 portfolio database process didn't continue as high submission standards and, per the PLO overview explained above for "Reflection on the results: How was the "loop closed?" the three Political Scientists have a new plan of action for the fall 2023 Capstone Seminar to implement experimentally.

**Summary of Findings:** Briefly summarize the results of the PLO assessments reported in Section II above combined with other relevant evidence gathered and show how these are being reviewed/discussed. How are you "closing the loop"?

<b>Reflection Prompt</b>	<b>Narrative Response</b>
<p><b>Other than GPA, what data/ evidence are used to determine that graduates have achieved the stated outcomes for the degree? (e.g., capstone course, portfolio review, licensure examination)</b></p>	<p>-- Required Capstone Seminar/ Portfolio course provides Political Science baselines for Majors to graduate, particularly since Seminar requires both an extensive research paper and career development portfolio, both assessing student's political science experiences and providing in-depth self-reflections.</p>

<p><b>Who interprets the evidence?</b>  <b>What is the process?</b>  <b>(e.g. annually by the curriculum committee)</b></p>	<p>-- The Political Scientists</p> <p>-- The Political Science Professor who teaches the Capstone Seminar every fall works with each student for submission of requirements to the Capstone database. For the Capstone Seminar process, as determined by the Political Scientists, the Capstone Seminar’s Portfolio assessment enables the Political Science Faculty to assess each PLO’s data/rubric (per Sections I-II) regarding whether each student fulfills requirements. Discussion then follows where the Political Science faculty discuss the data results and make suggested programmatic changes as warranted, with the Capstone Seminar Professor drafting the Annual Report for Political Science faculty to approve.</p>
<p><b>What changes have been made as a result of using the data/evidence? (close the loop)</b></p>	<p>-- As explained in Section II, the following approach for the fall 2023 Capstone Seminar anticipates better portfolio documentation submissions for better fulfilment of rubric achievement.</p> <p>-- Implementation of key guidelines, per agreement by the three Political Scientists – and maintained since 2021 – resulted in a slight decline of artifact quality generally for the student fall 2022 portfolio documentation.</p> <p>-- As a result, the Political Scientists determined a new experimental artifact process to implement in the fall’s 2023 Capstone Seminar. This new assessment approach will focus solely on the student’s comprehensive and analytical “Self-Reflection,” involving a methodical and very structured essay to demonstrate how the student believed proficiency improved in each Political Science rubric.</p> <p>-- The essay will integrate several crucial categories for how this rubric demonstrates the student’s mastery of this category’s skill set. This envisions each student combining explanation for improvement from introductory to upper-level course work – and anticipates providing more comprehensive student self-assessment by faculty to rate.</p>

**B. Assessment Plan for Program/Department**



I. Insert the program or department Assessment Plan (This is an independent plan from what is reported in this document). **Please see explanation above in Section II/#1-4.**

II. Explain any changes in the assessment plan including new or revised PLOs, new assessments that the program/department plans to implement and new targets or goals set for student success. **Please see per explanation above in Section II/#1-4.**

If you do not have a plan, would you like help in developing one?

\_\_\_ Yes

N/A

III.

**C. Program Review Action Plan or External action Letter/Report**

*Annual Reflection/Follow-up on Action Plan from last Program Review or external accreditation (only complete the table that is appropriate for your program)*

**I. Programs that fall under Program Review:**

i. Date of most recent Review: 2019-2021

ii. Insert the Action Plan table from your last Program Review and give any progress towards completing the tasks or achieving targets set forth in the plan.

Specific area where improvement is needed	Evidence to support the recommended change	Person(s) responsible for implementing the change	Resources needed	Progress Made this Year

None mentioned from the external evaluation of the Program Review.	Changes explained in this Annual Report's Sections II-III above -- account for the experimental approach to take in the fall 2023 Capstone Seminar and anticipate stronger learning outcomes, particularly by pinpointing better approach for student artifact regarding learning outcomes assessment.	Capstone Seminar's faculty member, in conjunction with other full-time Political Science faculty.	None	Explained in previous sections II-III above.

iii. If you do not have an action plan, would you like help in developing one based on your last program review and needs of the program? N/A

**II. Programs with external Accreditation:**

- i. Professional, specialized, State, or programmatic accreditations currently held by the program/department.
- ii. Date of most recent accreditation action by each listed agency.
- iii. Date and nature of next review and type of review.

List key issues for continuing accreditation identified in accreditation action letter or report.	Key performance indicators as required by agency or selected by program (licensure, board or bar pass rates; employment rates, etc.) (If required.)	Update on fulfilling the action letter or on meeting the key performance indicators.

**Section II - Departmental Outcomes**

**A. Departmental Strategic Initiatives**

<b>Accomplished Initiatives</b> <b>AY22-23</b> <small>Add more rows as needed</small>	<b>Corresponding Strategic Plan Goal &amp; Strategy</b> <small>Goal # followed by Strategy # ex: 1.3</small>	<b>Indicate (X) if a Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness (DEI) Goal</b>

<b>Planned Initiatives for AY 23-24</b> <small>Add more rows as needed</small>	<b>Associated Strategic Plan Goal &amp; Strategy</b> <small>Goal # followed by Strategy # ex: 1.3</small>	<b>Indicate (X) if a Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness (DEI) Goal</b>

**B. Departmental Accomplishments and Reflection:**

*Take this section to reflect on--*

1. *22-23 Accomplishments not captured above*
2. *Initiatives that you may be considering for 23-24 academic year that you did not already capture above*

After the retirement of Dr. Christy in 2021, the Political Scientists and EHPS Department Chair hope that the one-year replacement for 2023-2024 might effectively help in teaching American Government AND Research Methods courses – crucial to the Political Science Capstone Seminar’s Portfolio Assessment preparation. EHPS and Political Scientists await the approval of an extension to this one-year position, with the objective of transitioning to fulfill the Political Science Major’s traditional, fourth full-time faculty position.

Economics, History, and Political Science provide many course disciplines in liberal arts and sciences, strengthening the Arts and Sciences in Political Science, since Political Science courses provide key credit for students in other majors across all disciplines.

3. *Any other thoughts or information that you would like to share*

Consistently, Political Science as a discipline demonstrates great flexibility and finds many ways to teach even more in-person courses as the pandemic subsided – strengthening the core and electives in Political Science also taught online and in hybrid modalities – to the entire campus community.

