

LA HARBOR COLLEGE
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) Assessment Report
Course Assessment

Division: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Discipline/Program: Political Science

Course Number and Name: POL SCI 002 Modern World Governments

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Reviewed by:

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Attach additional pages as necessary.

Institutional Learning Outcomes	Course Intended Outcomes	Means of Assessment and Criteria for Success	Summary of Data Collected	Use of Results
1	1. Apply key concepts of comparative political study to the examination of political institutions, political processes and public policy across diverse states of the world	Essay question: What are the advantages and the disadvantages of using the case study approach to the study of comparative politics? Criteria: A score of 70% or better on the department rubric.	Spring 2011: N = 38 95% = 1 60% = 3 90% = 1 55% = 6 80% = 3 50% = 3 75% = 3 40% = 1 70% = 8 30% = 1 65% = 1 00% = 7	Simplify the presentation of concepts of comparative political methodology. Give examples of different approaches (e.g. case study, experimental, etc.) and have the students examine the results using each approach.
1	2. Compare the structures and behavior of legislative, executive and judicial institutions across diverse states	Essay question: Compare the British, American, and French parliamentary, presidential, and semi-presidential systems. Criteria: A score of 70% or better on the department rubric.	Spring 2011: N = 34 100% = 2 55% = 3 90% = 3 45% = 2 85% = 4 40% = 1 80% = 6 20% = 2 70% = 4 10% = 2 65% = 2 00% = 1 60% = 1	Have students diagram the British parliamentary, American presidential, and French semi-presidential systems showing similarities and differences. Review this with the class.
2	3. Analyze the conditions that create and sustain democratic and non-democratic systems in the Western and non-Western worlds	Essay question: Discuss the factors necessary for a democracy to develop and sustain itself. Give examples and explain why countries have successful or failed democracies. A score of 70% or better on the department rubric.	Fall 2011: N = 20 100% = 1 60% = 0 95% = 1 55% = 1 90% = 4 50% = 3 85% = 2 45% = 3 80% = 1 40% = 0 75% = 0 30% = 2 70% = 0 20% = 0 65% = 1 10% = 1	Spend additional time to emphasize characteristic of democracy; give examples. Review how to effectively structure an essay to properly address the question to compare and contrast and cite supportive sources.

2	4. Examine the relationship between economic centralization and decentralization and governing systems in industrial and developing states	Essay question: Explain and compare a centralized versus decentralized governing system in two different countries from an economic perspective. A score of 70% or better on the department rubric.	Spring 2015: N = 35 (3 classes) Percent (number) that satisfactorily answered essay: On average 88% of the combine total of student satisfactorily evaluated SLO #4	Criteria met. Review unitary vs. federal government systems to emphasize structure differences between centralized and decentralized systems.
1	5. Compare and contrast the political institutions, political processes and public policy outcomes in three European industrial democracies—Great Britain, France, Germany.	Essay question: Explain and compare the political impact of religion on Britain, France and Germany. Criteria: A score of 70% or better on the department rubric.	Spring 2015: N = 34 (3 classes) Percent (number) that satisfactorily answered essay: On average 82% of the combine total of student satisfactorily evaluated SLO #5	Criteria met. Give students with poor writing skills examples of well written answers and instruction on how to write a satisfactory answer.
1	6. Analyze the forces that created and sustained the totalitarian dictatorship of the Soviet Union and their impact on political institutions, political processes and policy outcomes in Russia today	Essay question: Analyze the following statement: “The forces that created the totalitarian dictatorship of the Soviet Union still impact the politics of Russia today.” Is this true or false? Explain. Criteria: A score of 70% or better on the department rubric.	Spring 2011: N = 29 90% = 3 65% = 2 85% = 4 60% = 3 80% = 2 55% = 5 75% = 4 50% = 2 70% = 4	Review totalitarianism and authoritarianism. Have students classify dictatorships past and present. Review the dictatorship of the Soviet Union. Have students chart any similarities/differences with Russian politics today.
2	7. Compare and contrast the political institutions, political processes and public policy outcomes of a state in Asia, Africa (or the Islamic Middle East), or Latin America with a European industrial democracy or with the uncertain democracy of Russia	Essay question: Compare and contrast the Japanese prime minister and the British prime minister. Criteria: A score of 70% or better on the department rubric.	Spring 2011: N = 15 90% - 1 85% - 3 80% - 2 75% - 2 70% - 6 65% - 1	Criteria met. Little need for change indicated.