

Mission

The Political Science program at Fitchburg State University seeks to:

- * Educate students about the political process on the local, regional, national, and international levels;
- * Prepare students for careers in law, public service, foreign service, academia, research, etc., and provide them with the required skills they need to succeed;
- * Promote citizenship, public service, and leadership understanding and skills for the students.

Academic Year 2024-2025
Bachelor Political Science Learning Outcomes

POLITICAL SCIENCE KNOWLEDGE:

Demonstrates evidence of comprehension of Political Science knowledge

MEASURES	RESULTS	ACTIONS
<p>Reflection Essay:</p> <p>-- Ability to make coherent arguments about political beliefs and values that have shaped Western or non-Western politics</p> <p>-- Ability to write cogently on the political beliefs and values that have shaped Western or non-Western politics</p> <p>-- Ability to debate different points of view on the political beliefs and values that have shaped Western or non-Western politics</p> <p>Direct - Portfolio</p> <p>Capstone Seminar in Political Science: POLS 4000</p> <p>Target</p> <p>100% of students to meet or exceed standards</p>	<p>MET</p> <p>POLS Annual Report Aggregate Data TK 20 Fall 2024 2025 Assessment.pdf</p> <p>Analysis</p> <p>The four students who took the fall 2024 Capstone Seminar in Political Science built on the Political Science "Reflection Essay" process created the previous year to demonstrate consistency and progress. The attached TK20 databased assessment with ratings by Professors Weizer, Budd, and Spero for Political Science "Knowledge" (1st set of measurements) didn't reveal any gaps in the assessment process the Political Science Professors created. All students met or exceeded the standard baselines in these three rubrics.</p>	<p>No actions have been added.</p>

POLITICAL SCIENCE REASONING AND ARGUMENTATION:

Demonstrates evidence of comprehension of Political Science reasoning and argumentation

MEASURES	RESULTS	ACTIONS
<p>Reflection Essay</p> <p>-- Ability to reason & make coherent arguments</p> <p>-- Ability to write cogently</p> <p>-- Ability to reason / debate different viewpoints</p> <p>Direct - Portfolio</p> <p>Capstone Seminar in Political Science: POLS 4000</p> <p>Target</p>	<p>MET</p> <p>POLS Annual Report Aggregate Data TK 20 Fall 2024 2025 Assessment.pdf</p> <p>Analysis</p> <p>The four students who took the fall 2024 Capstone Seminar in Political Science built on the Political Science "Reflection Essay" process created the previous year to demonstrate consistency and, on the whole, progress. The attached TK20 databased assessment with ratings by Professors Weizer, Budd, and Spero for Political Science "Reasoning and</p>	<p>No actions have been added.</p>

100% of students to meet or exceed standards	Argumentation" (2nd set of measurements) revealed some slight gaps by students in their self-reflection ability to "write more cogently," albeit nearly 95% of the students met or exceeded the standard baselines in these three rubrics.	
--	--	--

POLITICAL SCIENCE METHODOLOGY:

Demonstrates evidence of comprehension of Political Science methodology

MEASURES	RESULTS	ACTIONS
Reflection Essay: -- Ability to understand methodological measurement concepts and limits -- Ability to employ methods of data collection for survey research, documented analysis, and observation -- Ability to interpret and calculate basic statistics Direct - Portfolio <i>Capstone Seminar in Political Science: POLS 4000</i> Target 100% of students to meet or exceed standards	MET POLS Annual Report Aggregate Data TK 20 Fall 2024 2025 Assessment.pdf Analysis The four students who took the fall 2024 Capstone Seminar in Political Science built on the Political Science "Reflection Essay" process created the previous year to demonstrate consistency and, on the whole, solid progress. The attached TK20 databased assessment with ratings by Professors Weizer, Budd, and Spero for Political Science "Methodology" (3rd set of measurements) revealed only one minor gap by a student in the self-reflection ability more clearly to "employ methods of data collection for survey research, documented analysis, and observation," with nearly 97% of the students met or exceeded the standard baselines in these three rubrics.	<i>No actions have been added.</i>

POLITICAL SCIENCE THEORY:

Demonstrates evidence of knowledge of Political Science theory

MEASURES	RESULTS	ACTIONS
Reflection Essay -- Ability to understand Political Science theory for either American or International Politics -- Ability to grasp the theoretical Political Science literature and theory debates of the discipline -- Ability to apply theoretical principles to functioning of American Government, foreign governments, or Int'l. Political institutions Direct - Portfolio <i>Capstone Seminar in Political Science: POLS 4000</i> Target	MET POLS Annual Report Aggregate Data TK 20 Fall 2024 2025 Assessment.pdf Analysis The four students who took the fall 2024 Capstone Seminar in Political Science built on the Political Science "Reflection Essay" process created the previous year to demonstrate consistency and, on the whole, solid progress. The attached TK20 databased assessment with ratings by Professors Weizer, Budd, and Spero for Political Science "Theory" (4th set of measurements) revealed only one minor gap by a student in the self-reflection	<i>No actions have been added.</i>

100% of students to meet or exceed standards	ability more clearly to "apply theoretical principles to functioning of American Government, foreign governments, or international political institutions," with nearly 97% of the students met or exceeded the standard baselines in these three rubrics.	
--	--	--