2023-24 Annual Assessment Report

Bachelor Political Science

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 the required skills they need to succeed; Promote citizenship, public service, and leadership understanding and skills for the students.

Academic Year 2023-2024

Bachelor Political Science Learning Outcomes

POLITICAL SCIENCE KNOWLEDGE:

Demonstrates evidence of comprehension of Political Science knowledge

MEASURES	RESULTS	ACTIONS
Reflection Essay: -- Ability to make coherent arguments about political beliefs and values that have shaped Western or non-Western politics -- Ability to write cogently on the political beliefs and values that have shaped Western or non-Western politics -- Ability to debate different points of view on the political beliefs and values that have shaped Western or non-Western politics Direct - Portfolio *Capstone Seminar in Political Science: POLS 4000* **Target** 100% of students to meet or exceed standards	MET POLS_Annual_Report_Aggregate_Data_TK20_Fall_2023_2024_Assessment.pdf **Analysis** The two students who took the fall 2023 Capstone Seminar in Political Science enabled the Political Science Professors to conclude that the assessment process we created during the past year with the new "Reflection Essay" demonstrated progress without needing any changes. 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 process we've created. However, the small sample size could not measure adequately a statistically consequential analysis for our assessment. We believe a larger sample size with Capstone Seminar students anticipated for fall 2024 likely will generate more significantly statistical data.	*No actions have been added.*

POLITICAL SCIENCE REASONING AND ARGUMENTATION:

Demonstrates evidence of comprehension of Political Science reasoning and argumentation

MEASURES	RESULTS	ACTIONS
Reflection Essay -- Ability to reason & make coherent arguments -- Ability to write cogently -- Ability to reason / debate different viewpoints Direct - Portfolio *Capstone Seminar in Political Science: POLS 4000* **Target** 100% of students to meet or exceed standards	MET POLS_Annual_Report_Aggregate_Data_TK20_Fall_2023_2024_Assessment.pdf **Analysis** The two students who took the fall 2023 Capstone Seminar in Political Science enabled the Political Science Professors to conclude that the assessment process we created during the past year with the new "Reflection Essay" demonstrated progress without needing any changes. The attached TK20 databased assessment with ratings by Professors Weizer, Budd, and Spero for Political Science "Reasoning & Argumentation" (2nd set of measurements) didn't reveal any	*No actions have been added.*

| | gaps in the process we've created. However, the small sample size could not measure adequately a statistically consequential analysis for our assessment. We believe a larger sample size with Capstone Seminar students anticipated for fall 2024 likely will generate more significantly statistical data. | |

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 *Capstone Seminar in Political Science: POLS 4000* **Target** 100% of students to meet or exceed standards	**MET** POLS_Annual_Report_Aggregate_Data_TK20_Fall_2023_2024_Assessment.pdf **Analysis** The two students who took the fall 2023 Capstone Seminar in Political Science enabled the Political Science Professors to conclude that the assessment process we created during the past year with the new "Reflection Essay" demonstrated progress without needing any changes. The attached TK20 databased assessment with ratings by Professors Weizer, Budd, and Spero for Political Science "Methodology" (3rd set of measurements) didn't reveal any gaps in the process we've created. However, the small sample size could not measure adequately a statistically consequential analysis for our assessment. We believe a larger sample size with Capstone Seminar students anticipated for fall 2024 likely will generate more significantly statistical data.	*No actions have been added.*

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 *Capstone Seminar in Political Science: POLS 4000* **Target** 100% of students to meet or exceed standards	**MET** POLS_Annual_Report_Aggregate_Data_TK20_Fall_2023_2024_Assessment.pdf **Analysis** The two students who took the fall 2023 Capstone Seminar in Political Science enabled the Political Science Professors to conclude that the assessment process we created during the past year with the new "Reflection Essay" demonstrated progress without needing any changes. The attached TK20 databased assessment with ratings by Professors Weizer, Budd, and Spero for Political Science "Theory" (4th set of measurements) didn't reveal any gaps in the process we've created. However, the small sample size could not measure adequately a statistically consequential analysis for our assessment. We believe a larger sample size with Capstone Seminar students anticipated	*No actions have been added.*

	for fall 2024 likely will generate more significantly statistical data.	