

Program Assessment Plan
 American University
 Academic Program: SPA: Political Science - BA

Academic Program: SPA: Political Science - BA

Learning Outcome: Literature Review

Conduct a literature review of previous scholarly literature on the topic being investigated in the papers the students write for the course.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 06/30/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Research papers from Introduction to Political Research courses to determine if students have conducted a literature review, learned basic statistical techniques, and applied those techniques to analyze data and present the findings of their research. Measure Type: Written Assignment	85% if students successfully meet the learning outcome.	Data will be collected at the end of each semester. Data will be reviewed by the faculty members teaching the courses, and the data will be reported to the chair of the Department.	Yes
Faculty meeting to review specific student work. Measure Type: Other	No target identified.	No schedule identified.	Yes

Learning Outcome: Research Design Methods

Apply social science research design methods, such as how to create a hypothesis, to the paper they write for the course.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 06/30/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Research papers from Introduction to Political Research courses to determine if students have conducted a literature review, learned basic statistical techniques, and applied those techniques to analyze data and present the findings of their research. Measure Type: Written Assignment	85% if students successfully meet the learning outcome.	Data will be collected at the end of each semester. Data will be reviewed by the faculty members teaching the courses, and the data will be reported to the chair of the Department.	Yes
Faculty meeting to review specific student work. Measure Type: Other	No target identified.	No schedule identified.	Yes

Learning Outcome: Statistical Techniques

Apply basic statistical techniques to analyze already existing data sets or data sets created by the students.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 06/30/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Research papers from Introduction to Political Research courses to determine if students have conducted a literature review, learned basic statistical techniques, and applied those techniques to analyze data and present the findings of their research. Measure Type: Written Assignment	85% if students successfully meet the learning outcome.	Data will be collected at the end of each semester. Data will be reviewed by the faculty members teaching the courses, and the data will be reported to the chair of the Department.	Yes
Faculty meeting to review specific student work. Measure Type: Other	No target identified.	No schedule identified.	Yes

Learning Outcome: Written Report

Analyze data and present their results in a written report.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 06/30/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
Research papers from Introduction to Political Research courses to determine if students have conducted a literature review, learned basic statistical techniques, and applied those techniques to analyze data and present the findings of their research. Measure Type: Written Assignment	85% if students successfully meet the learning outcome.	Data will be collected at the end of each semester. Data will be reviewed by the faculty members teaching the courses, and the data will be reported to the chair of the Department.	Yes
Faculty meeting to review specific student work. Measure Type: Other	No target identified.	No schedule identified.	Yes