Learning Outcome: Analysis

Analyze political institutions, behavior and theory within the fields of American and Comparative Politics.

**Outcome Year:** 2010-2011  
**Start Date:** 06/30/2010  
**Outcome Status:** Active Learning Outcome

### Assessment Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Measure</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Schedule/Cycle</th>
<th>Active</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A comprehensive examination taken in either the field of American Politics or Comparative Politics. Students in the Applied Politics Concentration within the American Politics field must answer one question on the comprehensive exam directly related to applied politics.</td>
<td>85% of students successfully meet the outcome.</td>
<td>Data will be collected at the end of each semester in which a comprehensive exam is given. (Because some students complete the M.A. in 15 months, and others in 2 years, sometimes a comprehensive exam is given in the fall semester, as well as in the spring semester). Approximately six faculty members read the comprehensive exams in American politics, and two faculty members read the comprehensive exams in comparative politics. The exams are read by faculty who teach in the M.A. program. Data will be collected at the end of each semester in which a comprehensive exam is given.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measure Type: Quiz/ Exam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Indirect Measure:**  
Faculty meeting. Faculty will discuss strengths and weaknesses at the meeting.  
**Measure Type:** Other

**Learning Outcome: Synthesis**

Demonstrate skill in synthesizing existing literature and theory in the fields of American and Comparative Politics.

**Outcome Year:** 2010-2011  
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**Indirect Measure:**  
The Government Department Faculty will meet once every year to discuss the progress of students in their ability to meet the learning objectives established each year for the M.A. in Political Science. The annual meeting will provide the faculty with the opportunity to discuss the overall graduate curriculum, and to discuss potential changes to the curriculum.  
**Measure Type:** Other
A comprehensive examination taken in either the field of American Politics or Comparative Politics. Students in the Applied Politics Concentration within the American Politics field must answer one question on the comprehensive exam directly related to applied politics.

**Measure Type:**
- Quiz/Exam

**Target:**
- 85% of students successfully meet the outcome.

**Schedule/Cycle:**
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**Indirect Measure:**
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**Measure Type:**
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**Target:**
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**Learning Outcome: Research Methodologies**

Prepare a research design and use political science methodologies. As part of the comprehensive examination students are asked one question that requires them to develop a research question, create a research design to test that question, and describe the methodology or methodologies they would use to construct the research.

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Measure Type:
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