



MISSION STATEMENT AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES for Political Science

Review Year: 2026

Division: Arts & Humanities	Discipline/Program/Department: Political Science	Contact Person(s): Myers, Carolyn
---------------------------------------	--	---

Mission Statement

Southwestern Illinois College upholds the dignity and worth of students, employees and community, which empowers learning and enhances the quality of life.

The mission of the Department of Political Science in this education process is to provide students with a systematic approach to the study of politics and its connection to lifelong learning and informed citizenship; and to help students focus on the nature of power, and the role of government and civic participation, both in our own country and in the global arena. Appropriate assessment techniques will be used to measure student learning and update curriculum.

Program/Discipline Curriculum Map

I = Introduce: Student is first exposed to the concept/idea and is requested to apply the concept in a limited scope.

E = Emphasize: Student applies concept(s) in varying/multiple situations of greater complexity than when initially introduced.

R = Reinforce: Student may be expected to understand the concept upon taking the course and utilizes the concept in conjunction with other concepts/ideas to solve problems.

PROGRAM/DISCIPLINE OUTCOMES	COURSE PREFIX AND NUMBER															
Graduates of this program/discipline shall be able to:	POLS 150	POLS 240	POLS 241	POLS 262	POLS 270	POLS 280	POLS 289	POLS 290	POLS 292							
<u>Describe and apply</u> key concepts used to study political institutions, processes, and actors in a variety of settings.	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I							
<u>Describe how to participate effectively and democratically in the political process.</u>	I	I	I	R			R	R	R							
<u>Analyze critically the personal, social and political implications of diversity and alternative values.</u>	I	I,R	I, R	I	R	R	R	R	R							
<u>Explain political behavior beyond the borders of the US.</u>		I	I		I				R							
<u>Evaluate, in writing</u> , political topics and social issues in an effective, theoretically and empirically informed manner.	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I							
<u>Identify, evaluate, properly use and cite verifiable sources of information.</u>	I	I	I	I	I	R	R	R	R							

Map Comments:

These are the new mission and goals we have developed as part of the 5 year program review process. We will be assessing based on these new objectives beginning in F25.

Core Competency Map

CORE COMPETENCIES	COURSE PREFIX AND NUMBER															
	POLS 150	POLS 240	POLS 241	POLS 262	POLS 270	POLS 280	POLS 289	POLS 290	POLS 292							
Communication Skills																
1. Computer Literacy																
2. Oral Communications																
3. Writing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Reasoning Skills																
4. Critical Thinking	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							

5. Quantitative Literacy															
Citizenship															
6. Personal Accountability															
7. Civic And Social Accountability	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						