

administration. Representative employers include government agencies at the national, state, or local levels, nonprofit organizations, corporations, and research institutions.

Program (Student) Outcomes:

- I. **Disciplinary knowledge:** Upon completion of the political science major, students will have learned or strengthened their knowledge of essential concepts of American governmental institutions, political processes and-or international politics and-or law.
- II. **Analytical/Critical Thinking skills:** Upon completion of the political science major, students will be able to reflect, evaluate and analyze data/information, recognize trends or changes over time on a broad range of political issues and concepts.
- III. **Civic Engagement Activities:** Upon completion of the political science major, students will have participated in civic engagement activities to develop a better understanding of community issues and resources, thus cultivating a connection between students and community, whereby students develop a sense of social and political responsibility.
- IV. **Research and Writing Skills:** Upon completion of the political science major, students will be able to write a well-organized and technically correct political science paper that applies relevant theories and concepts, and defends a thesis statement through the process of discovery and application of scholarly evidence.

Student Learning Outcome 1:

Students will have learned or strengthened their knowledge of essential concepts of American governmental institutions, political processes and-or international politics and-or the law.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 1:

1. Mastery of content knowledge and skills

Means of Assessment for Outcome 1:

Grades from a randomly selected 300 and 400-level Political Science class. Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 50% of political science majors receiving a “C” or above in each of the courses.

Summary of Data:

Total number of students assessed
Number of students meeting criterion
Number of students not meeting criterion
Percentage of students meeting criterion

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 1:

Student Learning Outcome 2

Students will be able to reflect, evaluate and analyze data/information, recognize trends or changes over time on a broad range of political issues and/or concepts.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 2

1. Mastery of content knowledge and skills
2. Effective communication skills
3. Critical and reflective thinking skills

Means of Assessment for Outcome 2:

Political Science faculty will evaluate essays written by political science majors from one randomly selected 300 and 400-level political science class. The essays will be assessed by the accuracy and application of the data/information, and the development or progression of the political issue or concept. A grade of “C” or above will indicate a successful completion of this outcome.

Summary of Data:

- Total number of students assessed
- Number of students meeting criterion
- Number of students not meeting criterion
- Percentage of students meeting criterion

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 2:

Student Learning Outcome 3:

Students will have participated in civic engagement activities to develop a better understanding of community issues and resources, thus cultivating a connection between students and community, whereby students develop a sense of social and political responsibility.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 3:

1. Mastery of content knowledge and skills
2. Effective communication skills
3. Critical and reflective thinking skills

Means of Assessment for Outcome 3:

Successful completion of this outcome will be indicated by at least 50% of political science majors attending at least one civic engagement activity.

Summary of Data:

Total number of students assessed
Number of students meeting criterion
Number of students not meeting criterion
Percentage of students meeting criterion

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 3:**Student Learning Outcome 4**

Students will be able to write a well-organized and technically correct political science paper that applies relevant theories and concepts, and defends a thesis statement through the process of discovery and application of scholarly evidence.

NMHU Traits Specifically Linked to Student Learning Outcome 4:

1. Mastery of content knowledge and skills
2. Effective communication skills
3. Critical and reflective thinking skills
4. Effective use of technology

Means of Assessment for Outcome 4:

The final research project in POLS 410 American Constitution or POLS 419 Public Administration or POLS 415 Congress and The Legislative Process and POLS 458 Political Theory and Philosophy or POLS 453 International Relations and Human Rights or POLS 463 Political Economy will be used for this assessment. Political Science faculty will evaluate the final research project by the accuracy of the date/information, the progression of the argument is logical and coherent, the applicability of the concepts and the use of relevant sources to support the thesis/argument, and the writing is technically correct (minimal mistakes involving grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure, and references are cited (format/ uniformity/ appropriateness). A grade of “C” or above will indicate a successful completion of this outcome.

Summary of Data:

Total number of students assessed
Number of students meeting criterion
Number of students not meeting criterion
Percentage of students meeting criterion

Interpretation of Results for Outcome 4: