# **Assessment: Course Four Column**



## **Courses (SS) - Political Science**

### **PSC 101 1008:Introduction American Politics**

| Course Outcomes   | Assessment Measures  | Results   | Actions   |
|---|--|---|---|
| American society - Define politics and civic engagement by explaining importance in American society. | <b>Exam -</b> Assessment Measure:<br>Bulletin Board Discussion #1<br>Exams #1, #2, and #3  | Reporting Period: 2017-2018<br>Criterion Met: Yes<br>Chapter 1: Citizenship in Our Changing Democracy | Action: Review national civic service and participation in development initiatives.   |
| GE Objective 3: Personal/Cultural<br>Awareness  | Example: The text emphasizes the importance of an engaged citizenry  | Chapter 6: Public Opinion: Listening to Citizens  | Select benchmark exam question(s) to assess and better  |
| Understand the roles of individuals in society, the development of human                              | in making democracy meaningful.<br>Each chapter concludes with a   | Chapter 7: Political Participation: Equal Opportunities & Unequal Voices                              | understand student performance.   |
| societies, and the significance of creativity in the human experience.                                | "National Journal" article that<br>highlights the relationship between   | Chapter 15: Public Policy: Responding to Citizens   | BBD#1 - PART II: DEFINING<br>POLITICS   |
| Course Outcome Status: Active<br>Next Assessment: 2016-2017   | an informed citizenry and government.  | Results:  | In the opening dialogue of AM<br>GOV Chapter 1 AND The First Day<br>of Class handout under Modules,   |
| Start Date: 01/30/2014  | Example: After watching the<br>documentary "Street Fight" and<br>reading Chapter 7 on political<br>participation, the student will write a<br>response describing how they are<br>involved in the community and<br>discuss whether or not their<br>participation makes a difference in<br>the public policymaking process. | BBD#1: Average score 13.79; Range 0-20. (02/13/2019)  | we discover politics occurs in<br>private life and civic life. (1)<br>Keeping in mind the concepts of<br>politics, political power,<br>participation, authority, force, and<br>legitimacy introduced, describe<br>some other common situations in<br>which politics occurs. (2) Have any<br>decisions in your life or family<br>been affected by government |
|   | Criterion: 70% or better   |   | action(s)? (3) Did you have<br>anything to say about those<br>actions? If you didn't, do you know<br>who did? (4) Describe your<br>expectation(s) of American   |

| Course | Outcomes |
|--------|----------|
|        |          |

### **Actions**

government and politics and their primary role in society?

Strengthen correlation between course outcomes to college general education objectives, using specific examples and assessment measurements. (02/13/2019)

**Major constitutional principles -** List and explain significance of the major constitutional principles.

# GE Objective 3: Personal/Cultural Awareness

Understand the roles of individuals in society, the development of human societies, and the significance of creativity in the human experience.

Course Outcome Status: Active Next Assessment: 2016-2017 Start Date: 01/30/2014 **Exam -** Bulletin Board Discussion #2 Exam#1

Example: After reading and discussing the foundations of American democracy, determining the influence of the philosophers during The Enlightenment on the Founding Fathers, assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation, and examining the factors associated with constitutional change, students will highlight the importance of the separation of powers and checks and balances.

Example: Based on the discussion regarding the foundations of American democracy and events leading up to the Constitutional Convention, students will write a response that explores similar factors and contemporary conditions that would justify the need to convene a Constitutional Convention in the modern era.

Criterion: 70% or better

### Reporting Period: 2017-2018 Criterion Met: Yes

Chapter 2: The Constitution: The Foundation of Citizen's Rights

Chapter 5: Civil Rights: Toward a More Equal Citizenry

Results:

BBD#2: Average score 14.68; Range 0-20. (02/13/2019)

events that would lead to convening a Constitutional Convention.

Action: Discuss in a lecture

potential issues and political

Select benchmark exam question(s) to assess and better understand student performance.

### BBD#2 – PART IV: CHAPTER 2 QUESTIONS Question 4: Are there similar factors and conditions that you can identify that would justify the need to convene a Constitutional Convention in the modern era? What problems, issues, and conflicts would be addressed? Discuss in sufficient detail.

Strengthen correlation between course outcomes to college general education objectives, using specific examples and assessment measurements. (02/13/2019)

President's influence over public

Exam - Bulletin Board Discussion #3 R

#3 Reporting Period: 2017-2018

| Course Outcomes                      | Assessment Measures                   | Results  | Actions                            |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| opinion - Explain president's        | Exam#3                                | Criterion Met: Yes                                       | leadership styles of the major and |
| influence over public opinion and    | Criterion: 70% or better              | Chapter 12: The Presidency: Power & Paradox              | minor party 2016 presidential      |
| government's policy agenda.          | Notes: The class will be introduced   |  | candidates.                        |
|                                      | to a variety of PBS video clips that  | Results:   |                                    |
| GE Objective 1: Communication Skills | demonstrate presidential powers,      |  | Select benchmark exam              |
| Communicate clearly and effectively  | roles, and styles. Based on these     | BBD#3: Average score 13.50; Range 0-20.                  | question(s) to better understand   |
| in written and oral form, embracing  | clips and class discussions, students |  | student performance.               |
| discussion, reading, listening, and  | will write a response that outlines   | Criterion Met: Yes/No                                    |                                    |
| accessing information.               | the strengths and weaknesses of the   |  | BBD#3 - PART I: CHAPTER 6          |
|                                      | Executive Office, provides a          | YES  | QUESTIONS                          |
| Course Outcome Status: Active        | definition of "presidential           |  | Question 1. Public opinion can     |
| Next Assessment: 2016-2017           | greatness," and discusses the         | NOTE: Could use Exam#3 for assessment results.           | dramatically shift in the face of  |
| Start Date: 01/30/2014               | economic and political conditions     |  | major upheaval. Pearl Harbor, the  |
|                                      | that impacts decisions.               | Results:   | Great Depression, 2001 and         |
|                                      |                                       |  | terrorist attacks are good         |
|                                      |                                       | Exam#3: Average score (45.57); 76% out of 100%; Range 0- | examples of this phenomenon.       |

60. (02/13/2019)

**Congress** - Explain role of Congress, committee structure, and role in making public policy.

GE Objective 1: Communication Skills Communicate clearly and effectively

Exam - Exam #3

Example: The exam will measure the students' knowledge related to the origin and powers of Congress in Article I, resources required to get

#### Reporting Period: 2017-2018 Criterion Met: Yes

Chapter 11: Congress: Doing the People's Business

Chapter 13: Bureaucracy: Citizens as Owners and Consumers

02/13/2019

Are there any events that may occur which could have a similar effect? Consider issues such as the federal deficit, declining American economic power, environmental pollution, increasing drug use and criminal violence, a burgeoning elderly population, AIDS, or any other issue that might seem appropriate. Discuss in sufficient

Strengthen correlation between course outcomes to college general education objectives, using specific examples and assessment measurements.

Action: Identify websites and

PSC 210 class to utilize in this

examples related to the

resources related to Congress in

class. Also, include practical local,

state, and national government

detail.

(02/13/2019)

| Course Outcomes   | Assessment Measures   | Results   | Actions   |
|---|---|---|---|
| in written and oral form, embracing<br>discussion, reading, listening, and<br>accessing information.<br><b>Course Outcome Status:</b> Active<br><b>Next Assessment:</b> 2016-2017<br><b>Start Date:</b> 01/30/2014  | elected, incumbent advantages,<br>responsibilities and benefits, keys to<br>political power, and committee<br>structure.<br><b>Criterion:</b> 70% or better   | Results:<br>Exam#1: Average Grade (46.94); 78% out of 100%; Range 0-<br>60. (02/13/2019)  | bureaucracy.<br>Select benchmark exam<br>question(s) to assess and better<br>understand student performance.<br>Strengthen correlation between<br>course outcomes to college<br>general education objectives,<br>using specific examples and<br>assessment measurements.<br>(02/13/2019)  |
| Supreme Court - Understand<br>evolution of the Supreme Court as a<br>policymaker and the civil rights and<br>liberties of individuals.<br>GE Objective 3: Personal/Cultural<br>Awareness<br>Understand the roles of individuals in<br>society, the development of human<br>societies, and the significance of<br>creativity in the human experience.<br>Course Outcome Status: Active<br>Next Assessment: 2016-2017<br>Start Date: 01/30/2014 | Exam - Bulletin Board Discussion #4<br>Example: Students will be able to<br>diagram the U.S. Court System and<br>understand the nature of decisions<br>made by the courts. The<br>www.oyez.org website, U.S.<br>Supreme Court website, and "The<br>History and Functions of the U.S.<br>Supreme Court" documentary will<br>assist in demonstrating judicial<br>activism and restraint in landmark<br>decisions.<br>Criterion: 70% or better | Reporting Period: 2017-2018<br>Criterion Met: No<br>Chapter 14: The Courts: Judicial Power in a Democratic<br>Setting<br>Chapter 4: Civil Liberties<br>Results:<br>BBD#4: Average score 12.84; Range 0-20. (02/13/2019) | Action: Identify more<br>contemporary cases and examples<br>in order for students to better<br>understand the roles of the<br>judiciary. CSPAN has already been<br>identified a resource.<br>Select benchmark exam<br>question(s) to assess and better<br>understand student performance.<br>NOTE: Need to update the<br>example, for other resources are<br>being used in class.<br>Strengthen correlation between<br>course outcomes to college<br>general education objectives,<br>using specific examples and<br>assessment measurements.<br>(02/13/2019) |
| Political party - Itemize primary<br>functions of a political party and role<br>in elections.<br>GE Objective 2: Critical Thinking  | <b>Exam</b> - Bulletin Board Discussion #3<br>After discussing Chapter 9: Parties<br>and Political Campaigns and using<br>the www.270towin.com website  | <b>Reporting Period:</b> 2017-2018<br><b>Criterion Met:</b> No<br>Chapter 9: Parties and Political Campaigns: Citizens and the<br>Electoral Process   | Action: Focus on examples and<br>political documentaries from the<br>2012 and 2016 Presidential<br>elections that clearly demonstrate<br>the multiple roles and functions of  |

Integrate creativity, logic,

regarding the electoral college, Results:

02/13/2019

| Course Outcomes  | Assessment Measures  | Results  | Actions   |
|--|--|--|---|
| Course Outcomes<br>quantitative reasoning, and the<br>hierarchy of inquiry and knowing in<br>social scientific understanding.<br>Course Outcome Status: Active<br>Next Assessment: 2016-2017<br>Start Date: 01/30/2014 | Assessment Measures<br>students will be able to identify<br>voting groups needed to win<br>presidential election from 1789 to<br>2016.<br>Criterion: 70% or better | <i>Results</i><br>BBD#3: Average score 13.5; Range 0-20. (02/13/2019)                      | political parties.<br>Select benchmark exam<br>question(s) to assess and better<br>understand student performance<br>BBD#3 - PART IV: POLITICAL<br>PARTIES<br>Check out the Directory of U.S.<br>Political Parties:<br>http://votesmart.org/political-<br>parties#.VChyXPldXW8 (Links to a<br>external site.)<br>Select ONE political party or  |
|  |  |  | related link and discuss its<br>purpose. What is the group trying<br>to accomplish in terms of public<br>policies and political platforms?<br>Why did you select this particular<br>party? How does the group use<br>the internet and technology to<br>advocate, lobby, and advance its<br>POLICY and POLITICAL cause(s)?<br>Would you join the party you<br>selected? Discuss in sufficient<br>detail. |
|  |  |  | Strengthen correlation between<br>course outcomes to college<br>general education objectives,<br>using specific examples and<br>assessment measurements.<br>(02/13/2019)  |
| Interest groups and lobbyists - Assest roles and influence of interest groups and lobbyists.   | <ul> <li><b>Exam</b> - Bulletin Board Discussion #3</li> <li>Exam#2</li> <li>Example: After watching the</li> </ul>  | Reporting Period: 2017-2018<br>Criterion Met: Yes<br>Chapter 8: Interest Groups in America | Action: Action Plan: Revisit and<br>modify lectures and BBD to clarify<br>key terms and concepts associate<br>with interest groups and campaig  |

GE Objective 2: Critical Thinking Integrate creativity, logic, quantitative reasoning, and the

Example: After watching the documentary "Karl Rove: The Architect" and researching the Center for Responsive Politics

Results:

Exam#2: Average score (45.28); 75% out of 100%; Range 0-

with interest groups and campaign financing in the 2016 election.

Select benchmark exam question

| Course Outcomes  | Assessment Measures  | Results   | Actions   |
|--|--|---|---|
| hierarchy of inquiry and knowing in social scientific understanding.   | website for campaign financing,<br>students will determine the level of<br>influence exerted by interest groups,                                     | 60. (02/13/2019)  | (s) to assess and better<br>understand student performance.   |
| Course Outcome Status: Active<br>Next Assessment: 2016-2017<br>Start Date: 01/30/2014  | PACs, and 527s. Students will also<br>research and report on an interest<br>group.<br>Criterion: 70% or better                                       |   | <ul> <li>BBD#3 - PART II: POLITICAL</li> <li>STRATEGIST &amp; HIRED GUNS</li> <li>Watch the Karl Rove: The Archited</li> <li>video. Discuss in sufficient detail</li> <li>THREE aspects of the video that</li> <li>you believe are significant. In you</li> <li>response, include the SPECIFIC</li> <li>political strategies that Rove</li> <li>utilized (e.g. micro targeting,</li> <li>building groups and political</li> <li>support, focusing on political</li> <li>opponents, negative campaigning</li> <li>to win elections.</li> </ul> Strengthen correlation between <ul> <li>course outcomes to college</li> <li>general education objectives,</li> <li>using specific examples and</li> <li>assessment measurements.</li> <li>(02/13/2019)</li> </ul> |
| Nevada's political interests - Define<br>primary characteristics of Nevada's<br>political interests and governmental<br>structure. | <b>Exam</b> - Nevada Study Guide<br>Exams #4<br>Using a Nevada Constitution Study<br>Guide, The Sagebrush State, and<br>state websites for the three | Reporting Period: 2017-2018<br>Criterion Met: Yes<br>The Sagebrush State (Chapter 3: Civil Rights & Liberties in<br>Nevada, Chapter 6: The Nevada Legislature, Chapter 7: The | Action: Collaborate with<br>Historians and adjunct faculty to<br>compile and develop Nevada<br>Constitution questions and   |
| GE Objective 1: Communication Skills<br>Communicate clearly and effectively  | branches, students will learn about the primary roles and functions of   | Nevada Executive, Chapter 8: The Nevada Judiciary)<br>Results:  | discussions.<br>Select benchmark exam   |
| in written and oral form, embracing<br>discussion, reading, listening, and<br>accessing information.                               | state government.<br><b>Criterion:</b> 70% or better   | Exam#4: Average score (46.65); 73% out of 100%; Range 0-<br>64. (02/13/2019)  | question(s) to assess and better understand student performance   |
| Course Outcome Status: Active<br>Next Assessment: 2016-2017<br>Start Date: 01/30/2014  |  |   | NOTE: It may be possible to isolat<br>the 26 questions from the study<br>guide and examine the student  |

Start Date: 01/30/2014

Dana C.

Strengthen correlation between course outcomes to college

scores.

| Course Outcomes   | Assessment Measures  | Results   | Actions   |
|---|--|---|---|
|   |  |   | general education objectives,<br>using specific examples and<br>assessment measurements.<br>(02/13/2019)  |
| Online resources - Apply online<br>resources, popular culture examples,<br>current events, and documentaries to<br>critically analyze the governing<br>process and participants.<br>GE Objective 5: Technological<br>Understanding<br>Function effectively in modern society<br>through the use of technology.<br>Course Outcome Status: Active<br>Next Assessment: 2016-2017<br>Start Date: 01/30/2014 | Exam - All Bulletin Board Discussions<br>and Exams.<br>Example: Online resources such as C-<br>SPAN, YouTube, and Politico as well<br>as government websites and video<br>documentaries will be introduced<br>throughout the semester to<br>complement the readings. Students<br>will make connections between the<br>readings and these supplementary<br>resources.<br>Criterion: 70% or better | Reporting Period: 2017-2018<br>Criterion Met: Yes<br>AM GOV and The Sagebrush State<br>Due to the fluid nature of current events and politics, the<br>number of resources used for each class is dynamic and a<br>challenge to quantify.<br>Results:<br>Final Grade: Average score 82.04%; Range 0-100%<br>(02/13/2019) | Action: Continue to stay current<br>about the role and influence of<br>social media on forming public<br>opinion and voting. Identify SNL,<br>Funny or Die, late night satire, and<br>YouTube clips that can be<br>integrated into class lecture and<br>discussions.<br>Select benchmark exam<br>question(s) to assess and better<br>understand student performance.<br>BBD#2 - PART II: ELECTION<br>REFORM<br>Watch the following SNL-PBS<br>video Who Counts?: Election<br>Reform in America. First, discuss in<br>sufficient detail THREE aspects of<br>the video that you believe are<br>significant. Second, if you were<br>appointed the "U.S. Voting Czar,"<br>how would you increase voter<br>turnout and political participation<br>Note: The video is approximately<br>50 minutes long.<br>Strengthen correlation between<br>course outcomes to college<br>general education objectives,<br>using specific examples and<br>assessment measurements.<br>(02/13/2019) |

Political - Dissect political agendas,<br/>platforms, and biases associated with<br/>interest groups, media, politicalExam -<br/>BBD#4All Bull

**Exam** - Emphasis on BBD#2, BBD#3, BBD#4 All Bulletin Board Discussions and Reporting Period: 2017-2018 Criterion Met: Yes Chapter 8: Interest Groups in America Action: Stay current with the discipline literature regarding the

| Course Outcomes   | Assessment Measures  | Results  | Actions   |
|---|--|--|---|
| parties, and elections.   | Exams.   |  | influence linkage institutions have                                 |
|   |  | Chapter 9: Parties and Political Campaigns: Citizens and the | on political socialization and                                      |
| GE Objective 2: Critical Thinking                                   | Example: Students will be required                                       | Electoral Process  | voting behavior. Already used a                                     |
| Integrate creativity, logic,  | to research the two major political                                      |  | new text in PSC 401F this semester                                  |
| quantitative reasoning, and the hierarchy of inquiry and knowing in | parties and minor third parties to<br>determine their policy preferences | Chapter 10: Media: Tuning In or Tuning Out                   | entitled American Public Opinion<br>that will assist me with adding |
| social scientific understanding.                                    | and platforms.   | Results:   | more depth to the content in  |
|   |  |  | Chapters 8-10 and other areas.                                      |
| Course Outcome Status: Active                                       | Example: Students will take an   | BBD Total: Average score (13.70). 69% out of 100%. Range     |   |
| Next Assessment: 2016-2017  | online test provided by the Pew  | 0-10   | Select benchmark exam   |
| Start Date: 01/30/2014  | Research Center, assess their  | Criterion Met: Yes/No  | question(s) to assess and better                                    |
|   | placement on the political spectrum,                                     |  | understand student performance.                                     |
|   | and plot political linkage institutions                                  | YES (borderline)   |   |
|   | on the spectrum.   |  | BBD#2 - PART III: ARE YOU LIBERAL                                   |
|   | Criterion: 70% or better   | Exam Total: Average score (46.11). 76% out of 100%.          | OR CONSERVATIVE?  |
|   |  | (02/13/2019)   | Take the following quizzes and                                      |

share your results: http://www.people-

views:

right):

press.org/quiz/political-typology/

http://pewresearch.org/millennial s/quiz/ (Links to an external site.) According to the Pew Research Center Typology Test, the political spectrum (going from left-to-right) reflects the following political

Very Liberal - Liberal - Moderate -Conservative - Very Conservative You can also identify with a political party (going from left-to-

Strong Democrat - Democrat -Independent (Leaning Democrat) -Independent (No Leaning) -Independent (Leaning Republican) - Republican - Strong Republican After visiting these websites and taking the quizzes, are you a Republican or Democrat on the

(Links to an external site.)

### **Actions**

political spectrum? Conservative or Liberal? Do you agree with the results? Where do you fit on the political map/spectrum? How much in common do you have with the Millennial generation? How much in common or how different are your political views compared to your family, friends, and others? In sufficient detail, relate response to your political views and of course the assigned readings.

Strengthen correlation between course outcomes to college general education objectives, using specific examples and assessment measurements. (02/13/2019)

**Follow-Up:** Examined the equivalent of three PSC 101 online sections from the spring 2017 semester; 8 week format (1st session).

n = 79

| Final Grade Distribution |    |     |  |  |
|--------------------------|----|-----|--|--|
| А                        | 25 | 32% |  |  |
| В                        | 21 | 27% |  |  |
| С                        | 18 | 23% |  |  |
| D                        | 2  | 1%  |  |  |
| F/I                      | 13 | 16% |  |  |

70% criterion for achievement met for assessment results in majority of areas. (02/13/2019)