

Department of Politics and International Relations

Assessment Cycle

In preparation for implementing a regular assessment cycle, we focused on four elements of our assessment processes: **course evaluations**, **the senior thesis course**, and **the senior survey**, and **distinction interviews**. We will begin the first formal cycle of evaluation in 2020-21, after spending the Summer 2020 retreat focusing on the details of the schedule and making sure that we have direct and indirect assessments for each instrument that appears below and making sure we have procedures for faculty to share relevant feedback from their courses.

Evaluation Cycle	Goals	Tools
1: 2020-21	2 and 3	<p>Goal 2 (Political science concepts and theoretical traditions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLI 100 (Issues in Politics) • POLI 203 (Philosophy of Political Inquiry) • Senior survey • Distinction Interviews <p>Goal 3 (Familiarity with subfields):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLI 100 (Issues in Politics) • Senior survey
2: 2021-22	1 and 4	<p>Goal 1 (Critical thinking and analytical reasoning skills):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLI 202 (Empirical Research Methods) • POLI 303 (Analyzing Politics) • POLI 497 (Senior Thesis) • Senior survey <p>Goal 4 (Inter- and multi-disciplinarity):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLI 100 (Issues in Politics) • POLI 210 (American Political Institutions) • POLI 310 (American Presidency) • POLI 305 (Arkansas Politics and Government Seminar) • Senior survey
3: 2022-23	5 and 6	<p>Goal 5 (Oral and written communication skills):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLI 235 (Public Policy) • POLI 283 (Model UN) • POLI 340 (U.S. Congress) • POLI 321 (American Constitutional Law) • POLI 497 (Senior Thesis) • Senior survey <p>Goal 6 (Engaged citizenship):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POLI 305: Arkansas Politics and Government Seminar • POLI 321: American Constitutional Law • Senior survey • Distinction interviews