

Historical/ Political Studies

1. Individual Course Assessment.

Individual progress through a course is assessed by at least two processes. First, faculty may use a pre-test during the first class session and a post-test during the last class session, or they may embed their assessment activities within the class activities and exams. Questions are constructed to cover the areas listed in the course syllabus for which the student should be able to demonstrate competence. The second mechanism of testing is more traditional, with regular quizzes and a final examination and/or final major paper. A variety of formats for written exams may be used including both objective and essay exams.

2. Program Assessment (cumulative)

The program assessment for the Historical/Political Studies Discipline Learning Outcomes has two methodologies: Individual course outcomes are linked to the program outcomes and provide data and course work examples in support of the skills and knowledge required in the program. Cumulative data for the program assessment will be implemented and compiled in in the capstone course HI/POL 494 Research Seminar.

HI/POL 494 is a capstone course that explores the core principles and methodologies of historical and political studies. It also monitors the students' career preparation. In this course, the student will conduct research in history or political science (learning outcome 4). Utilizing this research, the student will write a research paper and present it in class (learning outcome 4). The research paper written by the student will incorporate the following principles and methodologies: understanding change, continuity and causality (learning outcome 1), comprehension of the workings of politics and governance (learning outcome 2), awareness of perspectives and interpretations (learning outcome 3). During the course, the instructor will review the progress of each student in preparing for his or her career (learning outcome 5).