



SLO Assessment Cycle for POLI 2

Comparative Politics

Assessment Initiated by: [Robert Stockwell](#) (8382) in POLI

Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Statement

Students will compare and evaluate how political decisions are shaped by institutions and processes in various political systems.

Assessment Cycle Records:

Outcome 1: Assessment Planning Modified: [09/10/2010]

Assessment Strategy Used:

Quarter: Spring 2010

Assessors: Robert Stockwell

Assessment Tools: Exams

Sections being assessed: 01

Outcome 1: Reflect & Enhance Modified: [09/10/2010]

Number of people involved in Reflection and Enhancement: 2

Changes:

This was the first time that a SLOAC was carried out for poli 2, comparative politics, since SLOs for the course were written in fall 2009.

Methods:

For assessment purposes, Stockwell used a multiple choice question on the final exam to assess all three SLOs for the class.

Based on your study of Comparative Politics this quarter, which of the following is true:

- a) in all political systems, political decisions are shaped by the interaction of institutions and processes, but the institutional forms and processes differ from country to country.
- b) the political decisions that emerge from various political systems have differential impacts on individuals and groups in society (for example, who is advantaged and who is disadvantaged).
- c) how individuals and groups participate in the political process varies from country to country.
- d) all of the above [correct answer].
- e) none of the above.

Summary:

45 students took the final exam. 42 of the 45 answered this question correctly, which is 93.33%. Of the 22 questions on the final exam, this was the question with the least number of incorrect responses (n=3).

While this result demonstrates that students mastered the SLOs for the class, there is definitely room for improvement. Ideally, all 45 students should have been able to answer this question correctly.

Enhancement (Part I):

In future poli 2 classes, I intend to utilize a broader range of assessment techniques in addition to exam questions. Comparative politics students engage in a variety of writing assignments and an extensive research paper, in addition to exams. Revising the content of lectures and assignments to more fully incorporate SLOs will enable them to be used to assess SLOs as well. In addition, more exam questions, perhaps looking at each SLO separately, would be a useful exercise in evaluating the validity of the assessment.

Enhancement (Part II):

Outcome 2: Statement

Students will compare and assess the impact of political decisions on individuals and groups in various political systems.

Outcome 2: Assessment Planning Modified: [09/10/2010]

Assessment Strategy Used:

Quarter: Spring 2010

Assessors: Robert Stockwell

Assessment Tools: Exams

Sections being assessed: 01

Outcome 2: Reflect & Enhance Modified: [09/10/2010]

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Enhancement (Part II):

Outcome 3: Statement

Students will appraise how participation in the political process varies across political systems.

Outcome 3: Assessment Planning Modified: [09/10/2010]

Assessment Strategy Used:

Quarter: Spring 2010

Assessors: Robert Stockwell

Assessment Tools: Exams

Sections being assessed: 01

Outcome 3: Reflect & Enhance Modified: [09/10/2010]

Number of people involved in Reflection and Enhancement: 2

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Enhancement (Part II):

[Number of Outcomes for POLI 2: 3]