

**MAJOR FIELD ASSESSMENT PLAN
B.A. GOVERNMENT**

The mission of Southeastern Louisiana University is to meet the educational and cultural needs, primarily of Southeast Louisiana, to disseminate knowledge and to facilitate life-long learning through quality instruction, research and service in a safe, student-centered environment.

The purpose of the B.A. in Government is to provide students with a general humanistic knowledge in the field of government, ability to analyze and interpret problems and achievements of past and present societies, understanding of the structure and procedures of national, state and international government, and prepare them to pursue professions in the fields of law, journalism, government service, and teaching.

Goal 1

Government majors should have an understanding of national and international governments, understand the philosophical underpinnings and justifications of different forms of government, and have a thorough understanding of the U.S. Constitution and other major political documents.

A. Expected Outcome

Students completing the baccalaureate program in Government will compare favorably in their knowledge of Government with those students graduating from a national sample of Government programs in institutions comparable to SLU.

Assessment

SLU graduating government majors will have an average total score on the ETS Major Field Achievement Test in Political Science which meets or exceeds the 50th percentile rank on a national sample of schools comparable to SLU. The MFAT will be administered to all graduating seniors in the Fall and Spring Semester.

B. Expected Outcome

Students graduating with a BA in Government will indicate satisfaction with the instruction they received.

Assessment

- a. On the SLU Exit survey, at least 80% of Graduating Government majors will indicate they were satisfied with the instruction they received in both beginning courses and advanced courses.
- b. On the Alumni survey, at least 80% of Government majors will indicate they were satisfied with the instruction they received in their major. Also, at least 80% of those students who went on to graduate school in Government/Political Science will indicate that their instruction at SLU prepared them for graduate school.

Goal 2

Government majors will look upon their undergraduate education as a rewarding experience which has enabled them to advance their personal and professional goals and to assume the responsibilities of citizenship in a competent and enlightened manner.

Expected Outcome

Students graduating with a BA in Government will be prepared for graduate study.

Assessment

- a. On the Alumni survey, at least 80% of those students who went on to graduate school in Government/Political Science will indicate that their instruction at SLU prepared them for graduate school.
- b. On the Alumni survey, at least 50% of those students who desired to go on to graduate school will have been accepted into a graduate program.
- c. On the Alumni survey, at least 80% of students who are employed in a field related to their major will indicate that SLU provided the knowledge and skills they need.

Goal 3

To provide students the necessary skills to engage in scholarly research in the area of government.

A. Expected Outcome

Government majors will be able to use the library and other sources to conduct research.

Assessment

B. Expected Outcome

Government majors will be able to write research papers, properly documented, using the language of the field, and free of academic jargon.

Assessment

C. Expected Outcome

Government majors will be able to analyze and read critically material in their fields and should be able to discuss the readings orally and in writing.

Assessment

D. Expected Outcome

Government majors should be able to do quantitative research and to analyze the findings with the assistance of computers.

Assessment