

**Department of Political Science & Criminal Justice
Fiscal Year Assessment Plan 2009-2010**

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose	Program Goals	Student Learning Outcomes	Means of Program Assessment and Criteria for Success	Summary of Data Collected	Use of Results
<p>It is the mission of the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice to encourage a life-long passion for learning and a quest for knowledge by providing an environment that fosters academic excellence and unfettered inquiry. We encourage the development of ethics and values that recognize knowledge in all its diverse and creative forms. The primary goal of our department is to offer excellence in instruction while meeting the academic needs of the students. Our mission is to foster a creative learning environment and assist students through meaningful and relevant experience.</p> <p><u>Goal Statement:</u></p> <p>Political Science is devoted to the study of the theory and practice of government and politics. The political science program complements a student's liberal arts education with an emphasis on understanding the theoretical and practical</p>	<p><i>Undergraduate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Guide students in developing analytical, communication, and information-gathering skills. 2. Encourage students to be tolerant, informed, and responsible citizens. 3. Offer opportunities for practical experience through internships, work studies, and memberships in honorary societies in political science and criminal justice. 4. Contribute to the cultural, political, and justice development of Southern Utah and the surrounding region. <p><i>Graduate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide students with the opportunity to explore higher level and in-depth theoretical and practical application issues confronting the modern public administrator; 2. Expose students to the complexity of modern public administration; 	<p><i>Undergraduate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will successfully complete academic requirements for the course of study. 2. Students will develop the ability to conduct research on theoretical and practical aspects of the department disciplines and to present findings and conclusions in their written work. 3. Students will improve upon their critical thinking and analytical skills and articulate their views in oral presentations and discussions. 4. Students will improve upon their vocabulary as it relates to some of the unique terms in criminal justice and political science. 5. Prepare students for admission to law school and other graduate degree programs. 6. Prepare students to meet career and professional goals. 	<p><i>Undergraduate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A pre- and post-test will be given in most courses to measure the scope of learning. 2. All graduating seniors in Political Science and Criminal Justice complete an Exit Survey. This Exit Survey collects information on students' plans for graduate school, law school, jobs, and professional positions after graduation. It also allows the student to provide feedback on their academic experience and the usefulness of curriculum. <p><i>Graduate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Masters Candidates complete a survey upon graduation which gathers data on their perceptions of the MPA program, whether or not they feel the curriculum is applicable to modern public administration and their plans for further education and/or employment. 		

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<p>aspects of political philosophy, public law, international relations, and American government and policy. Vocational alternatives for political science majors include teaching, public management, law, and foreign service.</p> <p>The goal of the Criminal Justice Program is to provide students with a comprehensive practical and professional knowledge of the Criminal Justice System consisting of law enforcement, courts, and corrections process. Students will develop an understanding of the application of the law, social sciences, and natural sciences to the problems of crime and delinquency.</p> <p>The goal of the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program is to provide masters candidates with a broad spectrum overview of public and/or non-profit administration, and to prepare them to begin/continue a career in public service.</p>	<p>3. Ensure that students master the research skills to investigate modern administrative issues.</p>	<p><i>Graduate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will be able to see modern public administration issues from many different perspectives, including theoretical, ethical and practical; 2. Students will demonstrate superior communication skills, both verbal and written; 3. Students will possess a high level of competency for investigation and analysis of administrative issues. 			
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