Political Science Learning Goals and Outcomes

**Goal 1**: Political Science students will develop intellectual and practical **skills**, including inquiry and analysis, creative and critical thinking, written and oral communication, information literacy, teamwork and problem-solving.

**Outcome 1**: Political Science students will be able to write, read, speak and listen effectively in academic and social contexts.

**Outcome 2**: Political Science students will be able to construct research questions and use appropriate sources and research methods to answer them.

**Goal 2**: Political Science students will gain **knowledge** of the theories, methods and approaches utilized within political science. They will develop their knowledge in the four subfields of political science, including American government, political theory, international relations and comparative government.

**Outcome 3**: Political Science students will analyze individual and group political behavior; the political process; public policy and administration; and case law within American government.

**Outcome 4**: Political Science students will analyze the core intellectual traditions in political thought and apply their central tenets to contemporary political questions and issues.

**Outcome 5**: Political Science students will analyze the behavior of state and non-state actors and the nature of their interactions.

**Outcome 6**: Political Science students will compare and contrast the various political, social and economic systems that exist across the international community and analyze the political consequences of those variations.

**Goal 3**: Political Science students will develop personal and social **responsibility** and promote equity, diversity and inclusivity; through the study of ethical principles and reasoning, application of civic knowledge, and interaction with diverse and global cultures, and issues.

**Outcome 7**: Political Science students will use analytical skills to understand civic, social and environmental challenges.

**Outcome 8**: Political Science students will demonstrate social responsibility and ethical reasoning within a variety of contexts.

**Goal 4**: Political Science students will **integrate** the skills, knowledge and responsibilities, adapting them to new settings, questions and responsibilities.

**Outcome 9**: Political Science students will generate a scholarly product that demonstrates appropriate knowledge, technical proficiency, information collection, synthesis, interpretation, presentation, and reflection.
Comprehensive Legal Studies: Additional Outcomes

1) Political Science Legal Studies students will analyze US Supreme Court cases and contending legal arguments from an interdisciplinary perspective.
2) Political Science Legal Studies students will analyze American judicial politics and case law with an emphasis on the federal system, the nature of individual powers in American government, the separation of powers principle, and civil rights and liberties.
3) Political Science Legal Studies students will promote equity, diversity and inclusivity through the analysis of due process of law, equal protection of the laws and individual and group rights.