

**Annual Key Assessment Findings and Curricular Improvements**  
**Department of Politics: Off Campus Programs**  
**Master's Program in International Affairs**  
**Master's Program in Congressional and Presidential Studies**

**AY 2011-2012 Key Assessment Findings**

***Master's level comprehensive exam: Rubric and Key Assessment Findings***

Each comprehensive exam question is graded by two professors in accordance with the off-campus program's comprehensive exam rubric, which is based on the following 3 point scale: exceeds expectations (Pass with Honors) 3 points, meets expectations (Pass) 2 points, and below expectations (Fail) 1 point.

**Table of Results**  
**Student Learning Assessment Rubric**  
**Department of Politics**  
**M.A. in Politics (Off-Campus Program)**  
**AY 2011-2012 Key Assessment Findings**

Trait	Level						Mean	SD	Total N
	Exceeding Expectations (3pts)		Meeting Expectations (2pts)		Below Expectations (1pt)				
	N	%	N	%	N	%			
<b>1) Critical Thinking /Analytical Skills</b>	4	19%	17	81%	0	0%	2.19	0.40	21
<b>2) Knowledge of Literature</b>	4	19%	17	81%	0	0%	2.19	0.40	21
<b>3) Clear/Effective Writing</b>	4	19%	17	81%	0	0%	2.19	0.40	21

The table above reflects the results of the M.A. comprehensive exams in CPOL during AY 2011-2012. In this AY, all students met or exceeded expectations for the exam in terms of critical thinking, knowledge of literature, and effective writing. After reviewing the CPOL M.A. exams, the Department of Politics feels confident that students are being well prepared for the exam.

***Master's level comprehensive exam: Curricular Improvements***

No major changes to the exam format have been made during the 2011-2012 academic year. Student achievement has met or exceeded expectations, and students, faculty, and the department all believe that the exam is designed in such a way that it measures accurately and fairly student learning in the CPOL MA programs. The rubric will continue to be used during AY 2012-2013, and it will be revised and improved as necessary.