



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Major: Political Science

Degree: M.A.

Date Revised: 2017-2018

Student Learning Outcomes and proposed Methods for collecting data (from assessment plan)

Student Learning Outcomes	
1	Students will demonstrate advanced theoretical and empirical knowledge of political processes, institutions, and policymaking via both oral and written forms of communication.
2	Students will demonstrate the ability to organize and conduct research in a manner consistent with professional norms.
3	Terminal Master's students will demonstrate competence in research – both orally and in written form – suitable for a variety of different professions e.g. teaching, business, government, and non-profit organizations.
4	Students for whom the Master's degree is an interim step towards the PhD will demonstrate theoretical and substantive knowledge in their primary subfield in Political Science (e.g. International Relations, American Government etc.).
5	Students for whom the Master's degree is an interim step towards the PhD will demonstrate research competence. Such skills will include: (a) Research skills such as the ability to summarize literature and identify original research questions. (b) Proficiency in research methods and research design. (c) The ability to effectively communicate original research in both written and oral forms. (d) The ability to summarize, analyze, and critique information from differing perspectives. (e) The ability to work independently.

Methods of Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Master's Thesis Rubric (1-5)• Evaluation of M.A. Student Performance in Each Graduate Seminar (1, 2, 5)• Student Performance on a pre-MA and post-MA Research Design Survey (2, 3, 5)