

Course Outcomes Guide

Directions: Please complete this form to document your progress toward improving student learning. For each item, indicate your progress and your anticipated next steps. Thank you!

Course/Program Title: POL-202 Constitutional Law

Date: Spring 2011

Course/Program Team: Amy L. Dennis

Expected Learning Outcomes:

- A. Expand their understanding of the powers and limitations of the federal government and the meaning of civil liberties included in the Constitution.
- B. Develop a basic understanding of the federal court system and the role and powers of the United States Supreme Court.
- C. Acquire the critical skills to read, interpret, and evaluate Supreme Court opinions and decisions.

Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome?)

Students are asked to complete a project on a current Constitutional issue. This project requires students demonstrate an understanding of the court system and opinions issued by the Supreme Court. Students will be required to apply information learned throughout the course to their project and will share their project with the class through a presentation. Additionally, a portfolio of project information will be submitted to the instructor.

Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)

A rubric will be developed to determine the completeness of each project and the level of understanding of the students.

Results (What does your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)

The Spring 2011 semester will be the first semester in which the new assessment will be used. Using a developed rubric, students will be evaluated at the completion of the project near the end of the semester. Changes to the assigned project will be considered for future semesters based on the base-line data collected.

Follow-up (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)

The completeness of projects and the level of understanding demonstrated during the first semester this assessment is used will provide base-line information. Expectations are that students will demonstrate competence in all expected learning outcomes. If students are not competent in an expected learning outcome, the project will be reviewed to increase emphasis on that outcome.

Budget Justification (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)

At this time, there are no additional resources necessary.