The Department has identified ten student learning outcomes for political science majors.

*(Democratic Citizen)*

1. Demonstrate an appreciation for the possibilities and responsibilities of national and global citizenship, including understanding opportunities for political participation and an ability to use critically the many sources of information about politics to make political choices and solve political problems.
2. Identify political principles and theories connected with democratic citizenship.
3. Be able to use theoretical perspectives to identify and explain domestic and global political problems and the linkages among them.

*(Critical Thinking)*

4. Identify domestic and international policy issues facing the U.S. and the world community and be able to critically analyze policy choices.
5. Demonstrate the habit of accessing sources of political knowledge and the skill to critically interpret, assess and apply evidence.
6. Apply rigorous criticism to all political ideas, principles, and be able to propose alternative paradigms.

*(Research Skills)*

7. Demonstrates writing competent and carefully articulated empirical research papers and demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills regarding the study of politics.
8. Employs research skills including the ability to conceptualize a research question, formulate a testable research hypothesis, apply relevant statistical techniques, and draw appropriate conclusions from their analysis.

*(Theoretical & Practical Knowledge)*

9. They will differentiate political structures, institutions, and governing processes in the U.S. and other countries.
10. Students will be trained as a new generation of leading political scientists who employ a clear understanding of current theoretical debates, cutting edge methodological techniques, and deep area knowledge to answer important substantive questions in the world today.