The Political Science program is developing methods to assess our strengths and weaknesses. As part of the Political Science Department assessment process we are asking you, as students in the department’s senior seminar, to fill out the following survey. You are asked not to include your name on this survey so that your responses can remain anonymous.

**Items 1-14 list the political science program’s objectives.** Please indicate below each item how well you think the program has accomplished that objective in regard to your own education by circling the number that most closely corresponds to your position.

1. **Offer students an undergraduate program of study in Political Science that provides students with the intellectual skills necessary to be able to analyze and interpret political events and governmental processes.**

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2. **Provide students with the ability to identify essential information regarding the operation of the American political system.**

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3. **Provide students with the ability to define and compare political institutions throughout the world.**

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4. **Provide students with the ability to identify and analyze political phenomena and interactions in international relations.**

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5. **Provide students with the ability to describe and analyze the core intellectual traditions in political thought**
and apply their central tenets.

6. Provide students with the ability to identify the major theories, concepts, and methods used to explain political attitudes and behavior.

7. Help enhance students' ability to gather and assess the value of information related to the study of politics.

8. Help enhance students' ability to analyze empirical data/materials related to the study of politics.

9. Help enhance students' ability to communicate in written communication.

10. Help enhance students' ability to communicate in oral communication.

11. Help enhance students' ability to communicate in electronic communication.
12. Help enhance students' ability to organize and complete independent inquiry and analysis.

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13. Help prepare students for professional and graduate school opportunities.

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Item 15 asks about your own efforts, please respond using the same scale as you have used for items 1-14.

15. How much effort do you believe that you brought to your political science program of study.

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Item 16 asks about your own interests in political science. Please mark one area with an "X".

16. Which area of Political Science are you most interested in?
   ___American Government (National, State, and Local)
   ___Public Administration
   ___Political Behavior
   ___Political Philosophy
   ___Research Methodology
   ___International Relations
   ___Comparative Politics
   ___Other__________________________________________

Revised 11/23/2010
For Items 17-25, please respond to the following questions. Feel free to use the back of the sheet if you need more room.

17. There are a variety of types of assignments used in political science courses. What types of assignments did you find to be the most valuable (i.e. helped you learn)?

   Analytic essays
   Book reviews
   Brief argumentative essays
   Case studies
   Data analysis
   Debates
   Group assignments
   Interviews
   Library research
   Service-learning projects
   Simulations
   Student Presentations
   Take-home assignments
   Take-home examinations
   Other (please identify)

18. What types of assignment did you find to be the least valuable (i.e. did not help you learn)?

   Analytic essays
   Book reviews
   Brief argumentative essays
   Case studies
   Data analysis
   Debates
   Group assignments
   Interviews
   Library research
   Service-learning projects
   Simulations
   Student Presentations
   Take-home assignments
   Take-home examinations
   Other (please identify)
19. Political Science courses include a variety of learning activities. Which of these did you find to be the most valuable (i.e. helped you learn)?

- Debates
- Guest speakers
- Large group discussions
- Lectures with discussions
- Simulations
- Small group discussions
- Student presentations
- Video presentations
- Other (please identify)

20. Which types of class format did you find to be the least valuable (i.e. did not help you learn)?

- Debates
- Guest speakers
- Large group discussions
- Lectures with discussions
- Simulations
- Small group discussions
- Student presentations
- Video presentations
- Other (please identify)

21. Did you have an internship experience as part of your Political Science Major?

___ Yes    ___ No

22. If you answered yes to number 21, please indicate the value of this experience to your education.

- Gained experience
- Identified contacts
- Improved skills (analytical, reading, speaking, writing)
- Learned leadership skills
- Verified desire for a career in a “political” setting
- Verified desire to avoid a career in a “political” setting

23. What aspects of the department and its program have been most valuable to you.
24. What aspects of the department and its program have been least valuable, or even a hindrance to you.

25. Please feel free to offer any additional comments about this program.

**Student Profile**

26. Indicate the most appropriate response

   __ I have been a student at River Falls from the beginning of college.

   __ I transferred to River Falls from another college or University

   __ Other ____________________________________________________________

27. What are your post-graduation plans?

   ____1. Graduate School in Political Science
   ____2. Law School
   ____3. Graduate School other than Political Science or Law School _______________
   ____4. Government employment
   ____5. Employment in business
   ____6. Teaching K-12
   ____7. No Plans
   ____8. __________________________________________________________________________