

Appendix II: Rubric for Government Masters Assessment

Goal and Definition	Definition	Does not meet expectations (1)	Mostly Meets Expectations (2)	Meets Expectations (3)	Exceeds Expectations (4)
Goal 1: Knowledge of one subfield of Political Science.	Students understand history and a debate in the field of Political science.	Student does not show an understanding of a historical debate in Political Science.	Student shows some understanding of debate, but some issues are left out.	Student adequately demonstrates understanding of subfield,	Student demonstrates deep understanding of subfield and places it in larger debates within political science.
Goal 2: Analysis	Students will demonstrate an ability to describe, integrate and analyze major controversies in the field of Political Science.	Student missing major argument or theories. Little or no analysis provided of controversies.	Student lists relevant literature, but there is not enough integration or analysis different points of view.	Student provides adequate review of literature and also discusses different assumptions and evidence of competing approaches.	Student provides a thorough review of the literature and an extensive analysis of competing approaches.
Goal 3: Communication	Students will demonstrate an ability to effectively communicate concepts and arguments relating to Political Science.	Student's answer is poorly written and hard to follow the argument. Concepts are not clearly explained or answer does not address the question.	Student's answer is mostly clear. Some problems of organization and clarity. Answer may not address the question.	Student's answer has a clear argument and is well organized. Student explains concepts adequately and addresses the question.	Student has a clear argument and answers the questions clearly.
Goal 4: Application of Knowledge	Students will demonstrate an ability to apply concepts from Political Science to current political issues.	Students does not apply concepts to current issues	Student makes some attempt to apply concepts to current issues, but the linkage is not completely clear.	Student explains how concepts from political science apply to current issues.	Student clearly demonstrates how concepts applies to current political issues. The student's application is insights and original.