

2008

Mission

The Department of Spanish and French Studies seeks to develop student competency in the analysis and appreciation of the rich and diverse traditions of language, literature, and culture in the Hispanophone and Francophone worlds. With courses and co-curricular activities in Spanish and French, the department cultivates in students the linguistic skills necessary to experience these languages and cultures from within and thereby achieve a multicultural and international perspective.

Goals

Goal 1. Majors can read, write, speak, and comprehend Spanish or French.

Outcome 1. Majors can read texts in Spanish or French.

Outcome 2. Majors can write in Spanish or French a clear and cogently argued essay.

Outcome 3. Majors can speak extemporaneously in Spanish or French, with previous planning and the help of a few notes.

Outcome 4. Majors can comprehend and respond competently to questions in Spanish or French.

Goal 2. Majors can demonstrate a knowledge of the language, literatures and cultures of Hispanophone or Francophone countries and communities.

Outcome 5. Majors can demonstrate through reading of texts in Spanish or French an understanding of various linguistic, literary and cultural developments from different historical and literary traditions, and from multiple theoretical perspectives.

Outcome 6. Majors can demonstrate through writing an understanding of the complexity of linguistic structure, literary production, and cultural development.

Outcome 7. Majors can demonstrate through speaking an understanding of the complexity of linguistic structure, literary production, and cultural development..

*Assessment Plan***Assessment Timeline**

YEAR	OUTCOME	MATERIALS	ASSESSORS
Spring 07	2	essays (200 level)	Saint-Aubin , Ellis
Fall 07	6 Fernandez	essays (300 level) or senior seminar	Saint-Aubin,
Spring 08	8	essays from sr. seminar	Guillen
Fall 08	3, 7	class presentations (202) comps presentations	Gonzalez, Guillen
Spring 09	1, 4	reading comp test (300 level, Sp.) reading comp test (200 level, Fr.)	Guillen, Grayson
Fall 09	5	reading comp (200 level, Sp.)	Shelton, Lopez
Spring 10	9	CBL journal or conversation course or or IPO eval. or abroad journals	Ellis, Grayson
Fall 10	<i>Beginning in Fall 2010, the department will undertake assessments of the core language requirement (100 level)</i>		Grayson

The first assessment will take place in the survey courses (Spanish) and French 301 (Exploring the Francophone world). These are third year courses, but many students begin taking them in the second year; hence the multiple designation (e.g., 1,4) above. We have begun assessing majors recently out of 202 so as to be able to compare students early in the major with those at the end of the major. The assessment in the 4th year will take place in the senior seminar and in the oral presentation that follows. We will assess outcome number 5 with the journal that students keep while abroad or an oral presentation in conjunction with the senior comprehensives oral exam and outcome number 9 with communications with alumni.

Assessment Plan

Since Fall semester 2005 we have discussed in face-to-face meetings as well as through e-mail the principles of assessment proposed in this template and the tools we will need to comply with the mandated assessment of Spanish and French. Everyone has worked on portions of the plan individually as well as with the group.