

2021-2022 Assessment Cycle

Assessment Plan

Mission Statement

Consistent with the mission of the University, the Department of Modern Languages serves as the main source for studying world cultures in their own languages, thus preparing students to communicate in other languages and be knowledgeable about other cultures, so they can compare and connect their culture to others and become engaged citizens in the global community.

Faculty members and language instructors, trained in humanities and linguistics studies, strive to share their knowledge and understanding of diverse cultures. The department collaborates with many other units, such as Music, History, Business, Education, and the Honors program to offer a vast array of opportunities to students wanting to bridge discipline boundaries. Through study abroad programs, and service opportunities at the local and international level, the department continues to support the mission of the university in developing skilled and informed global citizens.

The department offers a minor in International Studies; majors and minors in French and Spanish; collaborates with the School of Business in their minor in International Business; and also offers a minor with the History Department in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino/a Studies. It also maintains course offerings in other languages, currently Latin and Japanese.

Thus, the Department aims to serve students who:

1. Major or minor in a foreign modern language;
2. Must fulfill the foreign language proficiency requirement (BA degree);
3. Wish to combine foreign language with a professional program;
4. Plan to teach; and
5. Plan to go on to graduate school.

Measures

BA - Spanish/French Outcome Set

PSLO 1

Outcome: Ability to understand, interpret, discuss, explain

Demonstrate the ability to understand, interpret, discuss and explain a wide variety of written and oral communications in the target language.

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades
Course level Direct - Other

Details/Description: These are course grades in SP/FR 311, 312, 331, 400. These are the four required courses for all majors. A grade of "C" or better is required for the class to count toward the major, and also demonstrates that the student is meeting the minimum requirement for this PSLO. Grades in these courses are determined by each instructor, but generally include a variety of written and oral exams and assignments.

Acceptable Target: 100% of students will earn a grade of "C" or better in these courses.

▼ **Measure:** Portfolio
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description: Portfolio contains:

1. Video of a thesis defense/explanation of portfolio in target language.
2. 3 significant papers. One should be the thesis from SP/FR 400.
3. Reflection on experience in the program (written or oral format in target language).


Faculty are in charge of assessing in their language of expertise the "Major Portfolio Assessment Form" for graduating students (see attached rubric). They rank the portfolios on a three-tier scale (Excellent, Good and Fair). The goal of the unit is that at least 75% of students graduate at the "Good" level, which corresponds with the Intermediate High Level on

the ACTFL scale. This level of ranking is comparable with what most other higher learning institutions are doing.

Acceptable Target:

At least 75% of students will earn a grade of "good" on our Major Portfolio Assessment Form.

Supporting Attachments:

 Portfolio Rubric (Word Document (Open XML))

PSLO 2

Outcome: Ability to use grammar, syntax, basic vocabulary, and idioms

Apply the ability to use with accuracy the grammar, syntax, basic vocabulary and idioms of the target language and to compare these usages with English.

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades
Course level Direct - Other

Details/Description:

These are course grades in SP/FR 311, 312, 331, 400. These are the four required courses for all majors. A grade of "C" or better is required for the class to count toward the major, and also demonstrates that the student is meeting the minimum requirement for this PSLO. Grades in these courses are determined by each instructor, but generally include a variety of written and oral exams and assignments.

Acceptable Target:

100% of students will earn a grade of "C" or better in these courses.

▼ **Measure:** Portfolio

Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description:

Portfolio contains:


1. Video of a thesis defense/explanation of portfolio in target language.
2. 3 significant papers. One should be the thesis from SP/FR 400.
3. Reflection on experience in the program (written or oral format in target language).

Faculty are in charge of assessing in their language of expertise the "Major Portfolio Assessment Form" for graduating students (see attached rubric). They rank the portfolios on a three-tier scale (Excellent, Good and Fair). The goal of the unit is that at least 75% of students graduate at the "Good" level, which corresponds with the Intermediate High Level on the ACTFL scale. This level of ranking is comparable with what most other higher learning institutions are doing.

Acceptable Target:

At least 75% of students will earn a grade of "good" on our Major Portfolio Assessment Form.

Supporting Attachments:

 Portfolio Rubric (Word Document (Open XML))

PSLO 3

Outcome: Ability to explain, compare, contrast countries and cultures

Demonstrate the ability to explain, compare, and contrast the the institutions, history, social practices, and artistic and literary tradition(s) of the countries and culture(s) in which the language is spoken in their socio-historical background and/or their cultural significance.

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades
Course level Direct - Other

Details/Description: These are course grades in SP/FR 311, 312, 331, 400. These are the four required courses for all majors. A grade of "C" or better is required for the class to count toward the major, and also demonstrates that the student is meeting the minimum requirement for this PSLO. Grades in these courses are determined by each instructor, but generally include a variety of written and oral exams and assignments.


Acceptable Target: 100% of students will earn a grade of "C" or better in these courses.

▼ **Measure:** Portfolio
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description: Portfolio contains:
1. Video of a thesis defense/explanation of portfolio in target language.
2. 3 significant papers. One should be the thesis from SP/FR 400.
3. Reflection on experience in the program (written or oral format in target language).
Faculty are in charge of assessing in their language of expertise the "Major Portfolio Assessment Form" for graduating students (see attached rubric). They rank the portfolios on a three-tier scale (Excellent, Good and Fair). The goal of the unit is that at least 75% of students graduate at the "Good" level, which corresponds with the Intermediate High Level on the ACTFL scale. This level of ranking is comparable with what most other higher learning institutions are doing.

Acceptable Target: At least 75% of students will earn a grade of "good" on our Major Portfolio Assessment Form.

Supporting Attachments:

 Portfolio Rubric (Word Document (Open XML))

PSLO 4

Outcome: Utilize strategies for independent learning

Utilize strategies for independent and continuing learning of the target language.

▼ **Measure:** Course Grades
Course level Direct - Other

Details/Description:

These are course grades in SP/FR 311, 312, 331, 400. These are the four required courses for all majors. A grade of "C" or better is required for the class to count toward the major, and also demonstrates that the student is meeting the minimum requirement for this PSLO. Grades in these courses are determined by each instructor, but generally include a variety of written and oral exams and assignments.

Acceptable Target:

100% of students will earn a grade of "C" or better in these courses.

▼ **Measure:** Portfolio
Program level Direct - Portfolio

Details/Description:

Portfolio contains:

1. Video of a thesis defense/explanation of portfolio in target language.
2. 3 significant papers. One should be the thesis from SP/FR 400.
3. Reflection on experience in the program (written or oral format in target language).


Faculty are in charge of assessing in their language of expertise the "Major Portfolio Assessment Form"

for graduating students (see attached rubric). They rank the portfolios on a three-tier scale (Excellent, Good and Fair). The goal of the unit is that at least 75% of students graduate at the “Good” level, which corresponds with the Intermediate High Level on the ACTFL scale. This level of ranking is comparable with what most other higher learning institutions are doing.

Acceptable Target:

At least 75% of students will earn a grade of "good" on our Major Portfolio Assessment Form.

Supporting Attachments:

 Portfolio Rubric (Word Document (Open XML))

Analysis and Reporting Calendar

Data are collected and analyzed for each PSLO (1-4) annually.

Stakeholder Involvement

Stakeholders consist primarily of faculty and students. Faculty assess the majors portfolio for their particular language, which contains evidence of student work, but also an exit interview/reflection piece by the student. If in any given year, we notice a significant drop in the general performance of the graduating class, or if anything new is suggested or mentioned by a student in his or her reflection piece, we meet to examine what the problem is and how to address it in the way we teach future courses. We do share annually the outcomes at our Faculty Retreat. PSLO's are also included on syllabi.

Program Assessment Plan Review Cycle

Given the digital format for reporting Assessment findings, the assessment plan is reviewed in this section of Taskstream at least once each year.

Last Modified: 08/10/2022 10:51:42 AM CST