

Departmental Assessment Report for Foreign Languages & Humanities 2003-04

Expanded State of Institutional Purpose:

Mission Statement:

The principle focus of our University's curricular program is undergraduate education in the liberal arts and science

Goal Statement:

All graduates of baccalaureate level will have developed a depth of understanding in their major field.

Program Intended Educational Outcome:

1. Graduates of the language programs will be ready for employment in their field or be ready for acceptance into graduate and professional schools.
2. Graduates certifying to teach will have a sound understanding of the theories and approaches to teaching.
3. Graduates will be experienced in speaking French, German or Spanish.
4. Graduates will be able to write senior essays in their chosen language.
5. Graduates will have a sound understanding of German, French or Spanish literature.

Means of Program Assessment and Criteria for Success:

- 1a. Among those seeking admission to graduate and professional schools, 90% will be accepted. 70% of those seeking employment will find it in their major or related field of preparation.
- 1b. During the Graduate Exit Interview, 90% will "agree" with the statement, "I feel well prepared in language field."
2. 90% of graduates certifying to teach who seek a job, will find a teaching position within two years of graduating.
3. Students will be required to use the target language in 90% of upper-division classes through class discussions, oral reports, skits, discourses, group and individual presentations, with no major categories of pronunciation, grammar and syntax appearing to be consistently unmet.
4. Graduates will be required to write a senior essay in French 4640, German 4640, and Spanish 4610 with a success rate of 85% in avoiding major

Summary of Data Collected:

- 1a. 100% of those who applied to graduate school were accepted.
- 1b. 100% of our graduates polled agreed that their preparation in their target language was as good as they had expected it to be.
2. None of our graduates have applied for jobs in language or closely related to their language except for one who will teach. Some will travel for a while and then return to school. Some are going with spouses who will pursue advanced degrees.
3. Although results varied here 85% of our graduates met this goal.
4. This goal is a bit more ambitious in some languages than in others. Generally speaking those students in the Romance languages fared better than those in German due to the relative difficulties in the languages themselves. However, all students were within the 75% to 80% range in their work.
5. 100% of the graduates polled agreed with this statement.

Use of Results:

- 1a. We are pleased at the success rate of this goal and will do all we can to ensure it remains high.
- 1b. We feel this goal is being met and will strive to maintain its rigor.
2. We are satisfied that the strategies now in place are working well.
3. We will continue to encourage the use of the target language in the classroom. However, we will also encourage that correct grammatical principles be taught in whatever language is necessary to make the point.
4. More can be done here, especially in German, to insure that the written language is grammatically sound.
5. We are pleased with this result and have no plans to change what we are doing.

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grammatical, syntactical,
and stylistic errors.

5. Graduating students
will “agree” 90% of the
time that they feel that
our graduates completed
this goal.