Program / Discipline Assessment Report

Program/Discipline: Foreign Languages

Responsibility: Ruth Hidalgo, Co-Chair

Program/Discipline's Mission Statement:
The mission of the Foreign Languages department is to provide a learning centered environment to help students develop an awareness and appreciation of diverse cultures and a working knowledge of foreign languages with the ability to communicate in authentic situations for successful participation in a global environment and an international job market.

Program/Discipline's Assessment History:
By using the assessment process as an evaluative technique, how has it previously affected your program's curricula and/or teaching strategies?

More emphasis on consistent and regular oral practice through directed conversation, oral presentations and well as engaging students in creative conversation with native speakers.

By using the assessment process as an evaluative technique, what changes to student learning have been noted?

The assessment process is a guide which is utilized as a focus on building certain skills.

What unintended consequences, if any, have occurred because of the assessment process?

As enrollment and course offerings fluctuate we anticipate some unintended consequences. However, we will not know until we have the data.

Who receives information about your department's assessment and why? (Please note if you plan on altering either of these items for the coming year.)

Foreign Languages Co-Chair, Faculty and instructors
• Current Academic Year: Fall 2012 and spring 2013

Intended Learning Outcomes

Discipline/program outcomes:

1) Reading comprehension
2) Writing skills

Student learning outcomes:

1) Communication
2) Cultural awareness

Assessment Method(s)

Direct method of assessment for reading comprehension: reading selected texts at the designated level of study (SPA 111, SPA 112, SPA 211 and SPA 212) to include articles and literary selections. Students will be assessed on their critical thinking, language cognitive skills and inferred interpretations.

Direct method of assessment for writing skills: create written statements, descriptions, narrations on selected topics using correct grammatical structures, idiomatic expressions, vocabulary accuracy and spelling. Demonstrate the ability to apply critical thinking skills in the creation of written texts by using analysis, synthesis and evaluation.

Direct method of assessment for communication: initiate and maintain meaningful communication in predictable and familiar situations using correct grammatical structures, idiomatic expressions and vocabulary accuracy.

Direct method of assessment for cultural awareness: demonstrate an awareness of appropriate cultural behaviors in everyday situations, major current events and identify geographical locations where the language is spoken and understand the interrelatedness of geographical, historical, cultural and linguistic aspects.
Have you submitted a separate budget worksheet? (Choose by bolding; for information about this worksheet, please refer to the specific budgeting e-mail sent by the committee chairperson.)

Yes