



Program Assessment: *Annual Report*

College/School: College Arts & Sciences

Date: September 1, 2021

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In what year was the data upon which this report is based collected?

Academic year 2020-2021

1. Student Learning Outcomes

Which of the program's student learning outcomes were assessed in this annual assessment cycle?

Learning Outcomes for the Spanish B.A. Program

<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/arts-sciences/languages-literatures-cultures/spanish-ba/#learningoutcomestext>

1. Graduates will be able to articulate complex ideas and have meaningful interactions in Spanish, both orally and in writing (measured orally; writing proficiency had been measured in the cycle period of 2020).
2. Graduates will be able to engage with Spanish-speaking cultures. They will be able to explain similarities and differences between cultures (partially measured).

They were assessed according to the following ACTFL mode: Interpersonal Communication Mode for Advanced Learners

2. Assessment Methods: Student Artifacts

Which student artifacts were used to determine if students achieved this outcome? Please identify the course(s) in which these artifacts were collected. Clarify if any such courses were offered a) online, b) at the Madrid campus, or c) at any other off-campus location.

Online oral interviews during final semester of Spanish studies were used as assessment method to measure SLO1 and

2. Interviews were conducted by the respective instructor in each student's class.

4. Data/Results

What were the results of the assessment of the learning outcomes? Please be specific. Does achievement differ by teaching modality (e.g., online vs. face-to-face) or on-ground location (e.g., STL campus, Madrid campus, other off-campus site)?

majors “able to engage with Spanish

5. Findings: Interpretations & Conclusions

What have you learned from these results? What does the data tell you?

Program assessment results are important markers to show the success of the program in leading students to achieve

Please describe the actions you are taking as a result of the findings.

Two set of actions were identified.

First, the assessment process will be strengthened in the following way:

- x Assessment should be conducted earlier during the Spring semester, so that a conversation on how to improve the program can be tackled at the end of the Spring semester and changes can be implemented in the Fall.
- x A calibration session for the rubric will be held early next Spring so that results can be more reliable and all instructors work on the same page
- x More than one interview will be conducted by Spanish faculty mentors so that our majors are more aware of program goals and expectations, specifically questions for an entry interview in the major (in addition to an exit interview) will be prepared this semester.

Second, findings are used to identify potential areas for future curriculum improvement, and to make sure our students achieve the SLOs for the Spanish B.A.. The following recommendations were accepted:

- x Inclusion of the students learning outcomes for the B.A. in most syllabi (3000-level and 4000-level courses)
- x Creation of specific activities and exercises that prepare students to achieve SLOs in Spanish.
- x Inclusion of another interview at the beginning of the program (as mentioned above) to strengthen students' level of motivation and awareness of goals.

If no changes are being made, please explain why.

7. Closing the Loop: Review of Previous Assessment Findings and Changes

A. What is at least one change your program has implemented in recent years as a result of assessment data?

Faculty members in Spanish are regularly invited to design their courses more intentionally with the SLOs in the program in mind. As mentioned earlier and for several reasons, there has been an increase in the service component in SPAN 4150 which helps strengthen communicative abilities (SLO 1), and intercultural competence (SLO2) in a more realistic setting than a classroom.

B. How has this change/have these changes been assessed?

The student interviews conducted this year for the first time did not only aim to measure students' oral proficiency but also students' intercultural abilities.

C. What were the findings of the assessment?