

Program-Level Assessment Plan



Program: Spanish	Degree Level (e.g., UG or GR certificate, UG major, master’s program, doctoral program): M.A.
Department: Languages, Literatures & Cultures	College/School: Arts & Sciences
Date (Month/Year): September 2021	Primary Assessment Contact: Dr. Amy E. Wright

Note: Each cell in the table below will expand as needed to accommodate your responses.

#	Student Learning Outcomes	Curriculum Mapping	Assessment Methods	
			Artifacts of Student Learning (What)	Evaluation Process (How)
	<p>What do the program faculty expect all students to know or be able to do as a result of completing this program?</p> <p>Note: These should be measurable and manageable in number (typically 4-6 are sufficient).</p>	<p>In which courses will faculty intentionally work to foster some level of student development toward achievement of the outcome? Please clarify the level (e.g., introduced, developed, reinforced, achieved, etc.) at which student development is expected in each course.</p>	<p>1. Which artifacts of student learning will be used to determine if students have achieved this outcome?</p> <p>2. In which courses will these artifacts be collected?</p>	<p>1. What process will be used to evaluate the student artifacts, and by whom?</p> <p>2. What tools(s) (e.g., a rubric) will be used in the process?</p> <p>Note: Please include any rubrics as part of the submitted plan documents.</p>
1	<p>Graduates will be able to dialogue with (summarize and synthesize; critically and analytically respond to; compare and contrast) key works and recent scholarship in Hispanic Literatures, Cultures & Linguistics.</p>	<p>All 5000-level courses introduce, develop, and reinforce one of the 3 content areas of our program: Peninsular Literature and Culture, Latin American Literature and Culture, and Linguistics. Students are required to take at least two courses from each content area over the course of the program. Each of these courses require a combination of written, spoken and hybrid artifacts graded by rubrics: papers, presentations and projects. [See Curriculum Map.]</p> <p>Additionally, from the beginning of the program students read key works and recent scholarship from a curated M.A. Reading List. [See Reading List.]</p>	<p>Cumulative achievement is measured in the M.A. Written and Oral Exams (occurring outside of coursework) given in the penultimate and final semesters of the M.A. Program. Both exams cover the 3 content areas of our program: Peninsular Literature and Culture, Latin American Literature and Culture, and Linguistics. The Written Exam, given in the penultimate semester, focuses on the key works and recent scholarship from the curated M.A. Reading List. The Oral Exam, given in the final semester, focuses on the sum of a student’s coursework taken in the program.</p>	<p>Cumulative achievement is assessed through the M.A. Written and Oral Exams, themselves assessed by 3-member Graduate Faculty Committees. Each M.A. Exam covers the three areas of content focus and is graded according to a rubric. The average of the 3 evaluations is taken to establish whether each artifact (exam) is “excellent,” “passing,” or “failing.” The student must first pass the Written Exam in his/her penultimate semester in order to proceed to taking the Oral Exam in his/her final semester.</p>

2	<p>Graduates will be able to write and conduct research in Spanish, evidencing analysis, argumentation and organization.</p>	<p>All 5000-level courses introduce, develop, and reinforce writing skills in Spanish and require written artifacts such as papers and exams throughout. [See Curriculum Map.]</p>	<p>Cumulative achievement is measured in the M.A. Written Exam (occurring outside of coursework) given in the penultimate semester of the M.A. Program. This Written Exam covers the 3 content areas of our program: Peninsular Literature and Culture, Latin American Literature and Culture, and Linguistics.</p>	<p>5000-level courses assess writing skills using rubrics; intermediate degree of achievement is identifiable by assessment of these required artifacts by Instructors with Graduate Faculty Status using rubrics.</p> <p>Cumulative achievement is assessed through the M.A. Written Exam, itself assessed by a 3-member Graduate Faculty Committee. Each M.A. Written Exam, covering three areas of content focus, is graded according to a rubric. The average of the 3 evaluations is taken to establish whether the artifact is “excellent,” “passing,” or “failing.” [See Cumulative Written Rubric.]</p>
3	<p>Graduates will be able to speak about and present on their coursework and research in Spanish.</p>	<p>All 5000-level courses introduce, develop, and reinforce speaking in Spanish and require presentations throughout. [See Curriculum Map.]</p>	<p>Cumulative achievement is measured in the M.A. Oral Exam (occurring outside of coursework) given in the final semester of the M.A. Program. This Oral Exam covers the student’s coursework in our program according to its 3 areas of focus: Peninsular Literature and Culture, Latin American Literature and Culture, and Linguistics.</p>	<p>5000-level courses assess presentational skills using rubrics; intermediate degree of achievement is identifiable by assessment of these required artifacts by Instructors with Graduate Faculty Status using rubrics.</p> <p>Cumulative achievement is assessed through the M.A. Oral Exam, itself assessed by a 3-member Graduate Faculty Committee. Each M.A. Oral Exam, covering three areas of content focus, is graded according to a rubric. The average of the 3 evaluations is taken to establish whether the artifact is “excellent,” “passing,” or “failing.”</p>
4	<p>Graduates will be able to teach language and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world, using current methods in Foreign Language Pedagogy, with a deep understanding of their historical</p>	<p>SPAN 5040 introduces, develops, and reinforces pedagogical best practices, current methodology, and the skills required for teaching excellence.</p>	<p>This course assesses degree of mastery in these skills through written, oral and hybrid course artifacts using rubrics.</p>	<p>SPAN 5040 assesses these skills (pedagogical best practices, current methodology, and the skills required for teaching excellence) using rubrics; intermediate degree of achievement is identifiable by assessment of these required artifacts by Instructors with Graduate Faculty Status who assess written, oral and hybrid course artifacts</p>

development as well as current relevance.			using rubrics.
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Use of Assessment Data

1. How and when will analyzed data be used by program faculty to make changes in pedagogy, curriculum design, and/or assessment practices?

The Spanish Graduate Faculty reviews assessment results every semester every year. Any changes to the program are voted on by Graduate Faculty members in attendance at meetings.

2. How and when will the program faculty evaluate the impact of assessment-informed changes made in previous years?

Each Fall the Spanish Graduate Faculty will use the feedback given to review assessment methods and results for the following year, to follow up on the results of any previously implemented changes. Changes to the program itself are voted on by Graduate Faculty members in attendance at meetings.

Additional Questions

1. On what schedule/cycle will faculty assess each of the program’s student learning outcomes? (Please note: It is not recommended to try to assess every outcome every year.)

Our Spanish Program has been assessing outcomes annually as of Academic Year 2015-2016. Going forward, we will aim to assess two of the four outcomes each year. In Spring 2021 we worked on SLO’s 3 & 4 above, drafting a Cumulative Oral Rubric (SLO #3) to be voted on in Fall 2021 for use beginning Spring 2022, and coordinating syllabi and learning outcomes between our two SPAN 5040 instructors (SLO #4). In Fall 2021 current SPAN 5040 instructors will work with the GPD to generate common rubrics to assess students’ acquisition of pedagogical best practices, current methodology, and the skills required for teaching excellence through evaluation of the written, oral and hybrid artifacts in SPAN 5040.

Describe how, and the extent to which, program faculty contributed to the development of this plan.

I met with the Spanish Program on the SLU-Madrid Campus in Spring 2021 to discuss common approaches to assessment at the graduate level. Graduate Faculty on the St. Louis campus who had served on Spring 2021 committees were asked to provide feedback on the rubrics currently in use, and suggestions for any changes based on their recent experience. I hope to make further changes in Spring 2022 by implementing rubrics at the intermediate level (for intermediate written, oral and hybrid artifacts) as well as at the cumulative level (revising our rubric for cumulative written artifacts and creating a rubric for cumulative oral artifacts). We will continue to follow-up on the results of these changes beginning in Fall 2022.

IMPORTANT: Please remember to submit any rubrics or other assessment tools along with this plan.

SPANISH M.A. Curriculum Map

SPANISH M.A. - Roadmap

Year One		
Fall		Credits
SPAN 5XXX	Course in Linguistics	3
SPAN 5XXX	Course in Peninsular or Latin American Studies	3
SPAN 5XXX	Elective	3
	Credits	9
Spring		
SPAN 5XXX	Course in Peninsular or Latin American Studies	3
SPAN 5XXX	Course in Peninsular or Latin American Studies	3
SPAN 5XXX	Elective	3
	Credits	9
Summer		
[SPAN 5XXX	Elective	3]
	[Credits	3]
Year Two		
Fall		Credits
SPAN 5XXX	Course in Linguistics	3
SPAN 5XXX	Course in Peninsular or Latin American Studies	3
	Credits	6
Spring		
SPAN 5XXX	Elective	3
SPAN 5XXX	Elective	3
	Credits	6
	Total Credits	30

Program Notes

The sequence of courses will vary according to the student's previous experience with the language and individual preferences.

Students may also take courses at our campus in Madrid.

A maximum of six credits of course work may be approved for transfer toward fulfillment of degree requirements.

Additional requirements include a final written examination and a final oral examination.