

2011-12 Program Assessment Update

Department & Program: Modern Lang. & Lit. / French BA

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1. Student Learning Outcome	2. Strategy or method of measurement	3. Observations gathered from data	4. Actions recommended based on observations	5. Plan and timetable for taking action	6. Overall evaluation of progress on objective
<p>Demonstrate knowledge of the customs and idioms of the language culture under study in order to be able to respond to everyday situations in appropriate ways.</p>	<p>In-class conversations. Compositions and essays at all levels.</p>	<p>Students' knowledge of French idioms is limited; they actually don't seem to understand the idiomatic nature of linguistic communication.</p> <p>Students' knowledge of the target language culture is limited. This is due to the diverse nature of what Francophone culture is, including African, European, and American cultures. 21st century-French society and culture are, themselves, extremely diverse.</p> <p>The culture pages in our first and second year textbooks are often neglected as we focus on language acquisition.</p>	<p>I have started to devote more class time on the topic of the idiomatic nature of language, so that students refrain from translating word for word from English. However, I need to develop activities, in our Conversation class, geared towards the acquisition of idiomatic expressions.</p> <p>Reorient our two Culture and Civilization classes (320 and 321). 320 currently stretches from the Antiquity to the Revolution. 321 focuses on the 19th, and 20th centuries. It would benefit students to go all the way to the end of the 19th century in FREN 320, so that FREN 320 can be a more in-depth survey of contemporary French culture, as well as francophone culture, including current cultural issues such as Islam, national identity, les "banlieues", the "Indignés", etc.</p>	<p>Integrate more idioms in all French classes. Devote class time to the discussion of the idiomatic nature of language. Study idioms more specifically in our Conversation class.</p> <p>Reorganize the FREN 320-321 Culture and Civilization classes.</p>	<p>These changes are just being implemented now. No data gathered yet.</p> <p>This SLO is still central to program mission.</p> <p>The reorganization of 320-321 has already been partly implemented and is producing promising results.</p>