Colorado State University – Pueblo Undergraduate Program Assessment Report for AY 2012-2013

Program: SPN MINOR

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Please complete this form for <u>each undergraduate program</u> (e.g., B.A., B.S.) in your department and return it to Erin Frew, <u>erin.frew@colostate-pueblo.edu</u> as an email attachment before June 1, 2012. You'll also find the form at the assessment website at <u>http://www.colostate-pueblo.edu/Assessment/Resources/Pages/default.aspx</u>. Thank you.

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** Please read the following background information before examining the data in the Spanish minor assessment report.

Students minoring in French, Italian, and Spanish will be required to demonstrate a level of proficiency sufficient to converse comfortably on everyday topics, to attain intermediate levels of proficiency in writing and reading the target language, and to understand and appreciate the target language cultures.

These outcomes will be achieved by showing proficiency in the 5 C's:

- Communication: The communication standard stresses the use of the target language for communication in real life situations. It emphasizes — what students can do with language rather than — what they know about language. Students are asked to communicate in oral and written form, to interpret oral and written messages, to show cultural understanding when they communicate, and to present oral and written information to various audiences for a variety of purposes.
- 2) Cultures: Cultural understanding is an important part of language education. Experiencing other cultures develops a better understanding and appreciation of the relationship between languages and other cultures, as well as the student's native culture. Students become better able to understand other people's points of view, ways of life, and contributions to the world.
- 3) Connections: Target-language instruction must be connected with other subject areas. Content from other subject areas is integrated with target language instruction through lessons or courses that are developed around themes common to other subject areas.
- 4) Comparisons: Students are encouraged to compare and contrast the target language and cultures with their own. They discover patterns, make predictions, and analyze similarities and differences across languages and cultures. Students often come to understand their native language and culture better through such comparisons.

5) Communities: Extending learning experiences from the language classroom to the home and multilingual and multicultural community emphasizes living in a global society. Activities may include: field trips; use of e-mail and the Internet; participation in clubs, exchange or study-abroad programs, and cultural activities; school-to-work opportunities; and opportunities to hear speakers of Spanish at the University and in the classroom.

In order to assess these outcomes all graduating seniors minoring in Spanish participate in three assessment measures:

1. An Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) which determines students' oral language communication level based on the ACTFL (American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages) proficiency guidelines. (For the rubric see page 12)

2. A Written Proficiency Test (WPT) which determines students' written language level based on ACTFL proficiency guidelines. In addition, this short written exam measures the students' knowledge of Cultures, Connections and Comparisons. (For the rubric used for the WPT please see page 11)

3. An exit survey that measures their perceptions and knowledge of Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons and Communities. (Please see page 13)

I. Program student learning outcomes (SLOs) assessed in this cycle, processes, results, and recommendations.

A. Which of the	B. When	C. What	D. Who	E. What is the	F. What	G. What were the	H. What
program SLOs	was this	method was	was	expected	were the	department's	changes/improvements
were assessed	SLO last	used for	assessed?	achievement level	results of	conclusions about	are planned based on
during this cycle?	assesse	assessing the		and how many	the	student	this assessment?
	d?	SLO?		students should	assessment?	performance?	
				be at it?			
OUTCOME #1	SUM 13	OPI (Oral	Students	OPI: <mark>85%</mark> of	0 – Superior	All our minors	1. Keep our strong Oral
COMMUNICATION		Proficiency	who	students should	0 – Adv High	reached the	Component at all course
The communication		Interview)	complete	be Intermediate	1 – Adv Mid	intermediate mid	levels. Do oral tasks in
outcome stresses			d the	or higher	0 – Adv. Low	goal.	class based on ACTFL
the use of the target			minor		4 – Int High	guai.	(American Council on the
language for			2013/14		5 – Int Mid		Teaching of Foreign
communication in			10 OPI		0 – Int Low		Languages)
"real life" situations.							
It emphasizes "what					<mark>100%</mark> were		2. Maintain outside class
students can do with language"					Intermediat		opportunities for Oral
rather than "what					e Mid or		practice.
they know about					above		P
language." Students		EXIT SURVEY	9 surveys	SENIOR SURVEY:	SURVEY:		4. Conduct an Oral
are asked to			5 Surveys	85% of students	96% agreed		Proficiency Interview in
communicate in oral				should "agree" or	or strongly	Student	Mid – track (beginning of
and written form, to				"strongly agree"	agreed	satisfaction with	third semester) in order
interpret oral and				to all questions	uBreed	communicative	to have time to correct.
written messages,				pertaining to		ability is high.	
to show cultural				Communication.		ability is high.	5. For written
understanding		WRITTEN	4 written	WRITTEN SAMPLE:	1 – Adv Mid		communication students
when they		PROFICIENC	samples	85% of students	4 – Adv Low		at 200 and 300 level
communicate, and to present oral and		Y TEST	samples	should be	4 – Auv Low 4 – Int High		need to continue to work
written information				Intermediate Mid	4 – Int High 1 – Int Mid		more on writing
to various audiences		(WPT)				We hit our goal.	compositions on time
for a variety of				or higher	0 – Int Low	Very pleased!	frames other than
purposes.					100%	very pleaseu:	present.
					<mark>100%</mark>		6. Work with technology
					reached the		(video, skype) for oral
					goal.		tasks.

UM 13	EXIT SURVEY	GRAD. SENIORS 2013-14 9 surveys 10 written	SENIOR SURVEY: 85% of students should "agree" or "strongly agree" to all questions pertaining to Connections. WRITTEN SAMPLE:	100% agreed or strongly agreed 100% did	This measure improved a lot from last year!	 Continue to be explicit about the connections students can make through their interdisciplinary courses. Continue promoting FL 394 as service learning and field experience that connects Spanish
SUN	И 13		SENIORS 2013-14 9 surveysWRITTEN PROFICIENC10 written samples	SENIORS 2013-1485% of students should "agree" or "strongly agree" to all questions pertaining to Connections.WRITTEN PROFICIENC10 written samplesWRITTEN SAMPLE: 85% of students	SENIORS 2013-1485% of students should "agree" or "strongly agree" to all questions pertaining to Connections.agreed or strongly agreedWRITTEN PROFICIENC10 written samplesWRITTEN SAMPLE: 85% of students100% did well or very	SENIORS 2013-14 9 surveys85% of students should "agree" or "strongly agree" to all questions pertaining to Connections.agreed or strongly agreedimproved a lot from last year!WRITTEN PROFICIENC10 written samplesWRITTEN SAMPLE: 85% of students100% did well or veryWe improved a lot

with the target language instruction through lessons or courses that are developed around various themes. Students are then able to connect the Spanish language to other subject areas and		(WPT)		well" or "Yes, very well" in assessment of Connections.	well		subject areas.
use Spanish to learn content.							
OUTCOME #4 COMPARISONS Students are encouraged to compare and contrast the	SUM 13	EXIT SURVEY	GRAD. SENIORS 2012-13 9 surveys	SENIOR SURVEY: 85% of students should "agree" or "strongly agree" to all questions pertaining to Comparisons.	100% agreed or agreed stronger	Student perception of this outcome is high.	 Continue fostering comparisons in culture, language, etc. Conversation/Composit ion courses need to have at least one paper where students do a
target language and its cultures with their own. They discover patterns, make predictions, and analyze similarities and differences across languages and cultures. Students often come to		WRITTEN PROFICIENC Y TEST (WPT)	10 written samples (8 that applied)	WRITTEN SAMPLE: 85% of students should do "Yes, well" or "Yes, very well" in assessment of Comparisons.	100% did well or very well	The written samples show connections. We might have to re work the rubric to count for quality and not only presence.	students do a comparison/contrast. This will help practice this skill. 3. Rework the rubric to recognize not only the presence of comparison but the quality.

understand their native language and culture better through such							
comparisons.							
OUTCOME #5	SUM 13	EXIT SURVEY	GRAD. SENIORS	GRADUATE SURVEY: <mark>85%</mark> of	<mark>94%</mark> agreed or agreed	Students (all but one) seem to be	1. Continue extending learning experiences
COMMUNITIES			2013/14	students should	strongly.	satisfied with this	from the classroom to
Extending learning				"agree" or		field.	the home and
experiences from			9 surveys	"strongly agree"			multilingual and
the target				to the question that pertains to			multicultural community.
language				Communities.			2. Add project where
classroom to the							students do field work
home and							(interviews of
multilingual and							community members,
multicultural							participation in Spanish
community							speaking communities)
emphasizes living							3. Continue creating
in a global society.							opportunities where
Students learn							students use SPN to
that Spanish exists							become part of a larger
outside of the							community. Field trips;
classroom and use							clubs, study-abroad
it to become part							programs, school-to-
of a larger							work opportunities,
community.							3. Promote FL 394 as
Activities may							service learning and field
include: field trips;							experience that connects
use of e-mail and							Spanish learning with
the Internet;							other subject areas.
participation in							
clubs, exchange or							

studyabroad			
programs, and			
cultural activities;			
school-to-work			
opportunities; and			
opportunities to			
hear speakers of			
the target			
language at the			
University and in			
the classroom.			

Comments: All proposed changes and improvements remain to be discussed with the whole faculty. These are preliminary observations by the Associate Chair. Our biggest change was using the Written Proficiency Test as a measure instead of the sample paper. I think this gave us much more material for assessing. We need to assess more minors so one student does not affect the percentage so drastically.

AY 2013-14	Senior Surveys
	WPT (Written Proficiency Test)
	OPI (Oral Proficiency Test)
AY 2014-15	Senior Surveys
	WPT (Written Proficiency Test)
	OPI (Oral Proficiency Test)

B. Follow-up (closing the loop) on results and activities from previous assessment cycles. In this section, please describe actions taken during this cycle that were based on, or implemented to address, the results of assessment from previous cycles.

A. What SLO(s) did you address?	B. When was this SLO last assessed?	C. What were the recommendations for change from the previous assessment?	D. Were the recommendations for change acted upon? If not, why?	E. What were the results of the changes? If the changes were not effective, what are the next steps or the new recommendations?
COMMUNICATION	2013	 Keep our strong Oral Component at all course levels. Do oral tasks in class based on ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Maintain outside class opportunities for Oral Practice. Conduct an Oral Proficiency Interview in Mid – track (beginning of third semester) in order to have time to correct. For written communication students at 200 and 300 level need to continue to work more on writing compositions on time frames other than present. 	 We continued with our strong oral components in all classes. We continued with language circles and movie nights and discussions. We did not implement the mid track interview formally. It was a matter of finding the time. Oral interviews take a lot of planning and time if you consider testing at least 30 students. Instructors were encouraged but not forced. Many did do it. 	Our Communication goal was met so our initiatives had an impact!
CULTURE	2013	 Maintain our focus on culture through interdisciplinary classes. Keep on offering as much or more cultural activities 	 We have continued with our cultural approaches at every level. We continued our culture through 	Our outcomes on this SLO are strong and fall within our target. In the surveys students expressed the positive impact of study abroad and activities at the Language Center.

		outside class.	 interdisciplinary classes. We offered two special topics classes at 300 level, one with cinema and the other one with a gender focus. 3. The Language Center offered a great number of activities. We also had Day of the Dead and Folklorico dances. We also offered study abroad to Merida! 	
CONNECTIONS	2013	 Be explicit about the connections students can make through their interdisciplinary courses. Continue promoting FL 370 as service learning and field experience that connects Spanish learning with other subject areas. Consider a new question for the WPT that elicits stronger connections of Spanish with other subject areas. 	 1.We asked teachers to be more explicit about the connections students are making but left it up to them. 2. We had at least 8 students participate in FL395 Field Experience courses. 3. We used a question in the WPT that forces students to speak about culture and society 4. We offered 4 different Conversation/Composition Courses this year. Including Business in the Spanish Speaking World. 3. We offered two "Special Topics" at the 300 level, one Cinema and the other 	We really improved on this outcome so our efforts were rewarded. Also, this time we "captured" more minors for assessment (10 vs. 4) so we have a clearer picture.

			with a Gender focus.	
COMPARISONS	2013	1. Continue fostering comparisons in culture, language, etc.2.Conversation/Composition courses need to have at least one paper where students do a comparison/contrast. This will help practice this skill.	 We have continued fostering comparisons. Including a comparison contrast paper was left to individual teachers. Many decided to include it. 	Our results are strong. Still, I want to re work the rubric to measure for quality of comparison, not just presence.
COMMUNITIES	2013	 Continue extending learning experiences from the classroom to the home and multilingual and multicultural community. Continue creating opportunities where students use SPN to become part of a larger community. Field trips; Internet; clubs, study-abroad programs, school-to-work opportunities, speakers of the target language Promote FL 370 as service learning and field experience that connects Spanish learning with other subject areas. 	Our study abroad grew, as did our FL 394 Field Experience and Service Learning. Activities at the language center were multiple. Students went to Merida as part of Study Abroad. We also provided Field Experience opportunities to more than 8 students. Some went to Chile, Mexico, Peru, Dominican Republic, or worked with Spanish speaking communities here in Pueblo.	We assessed a lot more students (10 vs 4 last year) and this has given us a clearer pictures. Students were delighted by opportunities to go abroad or work on Pueblo community, as per survey commentaries.

Comments: We were more aggressive on assessing more minors. It made a difference in that it gave us a clearer picture. The new written proficiency test was great. We hit all our goals and student's comments were very positive. We are delighted and inspired to continue.

ASSESSMENT RUBRIC FOR WRITTEN PROFICIENCY TESTS AND GRADUATE PORTFOLIOS

 Student name
 Grad year
 WPT
 Portfolio

1. Does the student show an understanding of cultures of the Hispanic world?

1. Yes, very well 2. Yes, well 3. Some 4. No 5. N/A

2. Is the student able to use the Spanish Language to connect to other subject areas?

1. Yes, very well 2. Yes, well 3. Some 4. No 5. N/A

3. Is the student able to compare and contrast Spanish Language and cultures with their own?

1. Yes, very well 2. Yes, well 3. Some 4. No 5. N/A

4. Language Proficiency: After reading the students writing mark what the student can do by each box:

1. Can do it 2. Can do most of it 3. Can do some of it 4. Cannot do it 4. N/A

	Global Tasks	Content	Accuracy	Text Type	
Int	Create with language	Write about predictable familiar	Understood, by those accustomed to dealing with	Write discrete	
	Describe and narrate in the present	topics related to daily activities	non-native speakers	sentences	
Adv	Narrate and describe in major time frames	Write about topics of general and personal interest.	Understood without difficulty by those unaccustomed to dealing with non-native speakers.	Write paragraphs	
	Discuss topics extensively	Express him/herself in a formal setting	Shows no pattern of errors in basic structures.		
Sup	Support opinions and hypothesize	Write about a wide range of general interest topics.	Errors virtually never interfere with communication or distract	Use extended discourse	
-	Speak in the abstract	Write about some special fields of interest and expertise	the native speaker from the message.		

ASSESSMENT RUBRIC FOR ORAL PROFICIENCY INTERVIEWS – SUMMARY

(Full descriptors found at : <u>http://actflproficiencyguidelines2012.org/speaking</u>)

Proficiency Level	Global Tasks and Functions	Context / Content	Accuracy	Text Type
Superior	Discuss topics extensively, support opinions and hypothesize. Deal with a linguistically unfamiliar situation.	Most formal and informal settings. Wide range of general interest topics and some special fields of interest and expertise.	No pattern of errors in basic structures. Errors virtually never interfere with communication or distract the native speaker from the message.	Extended discourse.
Advanced	Narrate and describe in major time frames and deal effectively with an unanticipated complication	Most informal and some formal settings/Topics of general and personal interest.	Understood without difficulty by speakers unaccustomed to dealing with non-native speakers.	Paragraphs
Intermediate	Create with language. Initiate, maintain and bring to a close simple conversations. Asks questions. Describe and narrate in the present.	Some informal settings and limited transactional activities. Predictable familiar topics related to daily activities	Understood, with some repetition, by speakers accustomed to dealing with non-native speakers	Discrete sentences.
Novice	Communicates minimally. Formulaic and rote utterances, Lists and phrases	Most common informal settings/ Most common aspects of daily life	May be difficult to understand, even for speakers accustomed to dealing with non-native speakers	Individual words and phrases

CSU-Pueblo-FL Program Questionnaire for Graduating Seniors

A. Please write the number that corresponds to your opinion in the box at the left of each statement.

1. Strongly agree 2. Agree 3. Disagree 4. Strongly disagree 5. No basis to judge

1. Communication:

I have developed practical skills, such as the ability to communicate orally and in writing in "real life" situations.
I have attained a level of speaking and listening proficiency in the language sufficient to allow me to satisfy basic work requirements in the language.
I have developed the ability to think critically: to analyze, to think abstractly, to support and defend opinions, and to hypothesize in spoken and written form.

2. Cultures:

My studies helped me develop the ability to see beyond my own culture.
I have acquired a basic understanding of the history, culture, and literature of the target language and know how to update and enhance this knowledge.
I am more able to understand other people's point of view, ways of life and contributions to the world.

3. Connections:

I was able to connect my language studies to other subject areas such as English, History, Business, Art, Cultural Studies, Literature, Sociology, Music, Political Science, etc.

4. Comparisons:

I now have the ability to analyze similarities and differences across languages and cultures I understand my own culture better after going through this program

5. Communities:

I was able to take my language and culture skills beyond the classroom by participating in campus activities, clubs, exchange programs, community activities, school to work opportunities, internships, work situations, etc

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