Assessment Plan

BA Spanish
School for Global Innovation and Education
College of Education
Kean University

Mission:
The Spanish Program at Kean University has several related goals that are aligned with the University Mission. The Spanish Program is designed to enable students to achieve a ready comprehension of spoken Spanish, enhancing their appreciation of the language and the cultural aspects of the Spanish-speaking world. In addition, the Spanish Program helps students develop and improve analytical skills, knowledge of Hispanic linguistic systems, understanding of literary and cultural theories as well as communication in writing and speech.

Assessment Process:

Spanish BA students take 5 core courses as part of the requirements for the major. These core courses provide a sound backbone of the discipline with regard to the research and theoretical aspects of Spanish linguistic and cultural systems. As such, the core courses are the primary vehicle for assessing the developing knowledge of our students. Beyond these four core courses, students take an additional six (6) courses offered within our program, and it is likely that very few Spanish majors take the exact same grouping of courses among these elective. Therefore, the faculty has agreed to center our assessment on the core knowledge of Spanish as presented in our core requirements.

Each core course has assessment tools as part of the evaluation process. However, beginning Fall 2012 the Spanish program will initiate one direct measure in one core course SPAN 3100: Advance Spanish Composition to assess the development of student writing skills with regard to research, analysis and argumentation. The culminating assessment is done in SPAN 4700: Spanish Capstone. In this course, assessment data is collected from several assignments that require students to provide the evidence of meeting program goals. Each semester, composite data from scored student assignments will be collected and analyzed to address areas of program strengths and weaknesses and to inform our decisions ultimately resulting in program improvements. Also, a systematic process for gathering data utilizing an indirect measure, the Graduating Student Survey, was established. Data from the student survey will also help inform our decisions regarding program improvement.
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) and Direct/Indirect Measures:
Students who graduate with a BA in Spanish should be able to:

SLO1. Compare and contrast varying approaches to literary study and relate specific aspects of a literary subject to the Hispanic literary tradition. (KU1; GE: K3, S1, S2, S4, S5, V2, V3, V4, V5)

Direct Measure #1: Rubric-based Assessment of Final Research Project and Culminating Oral Presentation
Direct Measure #2: Rubric-based Spanish Writing Assessment
Indirect Measure: Graduating Student Survey

SLO2. Analyze the extent to which the arts, religious beliefs, historical context, cultural perspectives and/or governance has influenced one or more works of Peninsular and Latin American literature and justify conclusions. (KU1, KU2; GE: K3, K4, S1, S2, S4, S5, V1, V2, V3, V4, V5)

Direct Measure #1: Rubric-based Assessment of Final Research Project and Culminating Oral Presentation
Direct Measure #2: Rubric-based Spanish Writing Assessment
Indirect Measure: Graduating Student Survey

SLO3. Evaluate the contributions of Peninsular and Latin American authors within the context of world literary contributions during a similar time period. (KU1, KU2, KU3, KU4; GE: K3, K4, S1, S2, S4, S5, V3, V4, V5)

Direct Measure #1: Rubric-based Assessment of Final Research Project and Culminating Oral Presentation
Direct Measure #2: Rubric-based Spanish Writing Assessment
Indirect Measure: Graduating Student Survey

SLO4. Demonstrate further development of linguistic and cultural proficiency and proficiency in the methods of literary analysis and exegesis (e.g., relationship between theme, intellectual issues, socio-historical or geocultural context). (KU1; GE: K3, S1, S2, S4, S5, V3, V4, V5)

Direct Measure #1: Rubric-based Assessment of Final Research Project and Culminating Oral Presentation
Direct Measure #2: Rubric-based Spanish Writing Assessment
Indirect Measure: Graduating Student Survey
KU Student Outcomes: *Kean University graduates should be able to:*
1. Think critically, creatively and globally;
2. Adapt to changing social, economic, and technological environments;
3. Serve as active and contributing members of their communities; and
4. Advance their knowledge in the traditional disciplines (GE) and enhance their skills in professional areas.

**General Education Student Learning Outcomes**

*Student Learning Outcomes – Knowledge:*

*Students will demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and content by:*

(K1) applying the scientific method to comprehend natural concepts and processes;
(K2) evaluating major theories and concepts in social sciences;
(K3) relating historical references to literature; and
(K4) evaluating major theories and concepts in the fine arts.

*Student Learning Outcomes – Skills:*

*Students will demonstrate the skills necessary to:*

(S1) write to communicate and clarify learning;
(S2) communicate effectively through speech;
(S3) solve problems using quantitative reasoning;
(S4) think critically about concepts in multiple disciplines; and
(S5) show information literacy.

*Student Learning Outcomes – Values:*

Students will exhibit a set of values that demonstrates:

(V1) personal responsibility;
(V2) ethical and social responsibility;
(V3) social and civic engagement;
(V4) respect for diverse cultures and perspectives; and
(V5) life-long learning.