Assessment Plan

BA in World Languages/Spanish
School of Global Education and Innovation
College of Education
Kean University

Mission: World Languages: Spanish Program

The undergraduate degree program in Spanish provides a coherent sequence of course offerings and learning experiences that promote the development of linguistic and cultural competency and broaden understanding of the world community through the study of Hispanic language, linguistics and literatures. By fostering the ability to effectively communicate both orally and in writing in Spanish in appropriate cultural contexts, the program offers enhanced personal and professional opportunities for graduates who live in a multicultural society and who will pursue a variety of academic or other careers/occupations in the 21st century workplace.

Assessment Process:

Students are required to complete 5 core courses as a Spanish major. These core courses provide a sound foundation for the research and theoretical aspects of the study of Peninsular and Latin American literature and culture, as well as related areas of study within the field. As such, the core courses are the primary vehicle for assessing student knowledge and skills along the curriculum continuum. In addition to the 5 core courses, students take 6 elective courses offered within our program; however it is unlikely that most majors take the same electives. As such, faculty have agreed to center the culminating student assessment on the core knowledge/skills contained in the required 5 courses in SPAN 4700, the senior capstone seminar. In this course, assessment data is collected from an assignment that requires students to provide evidence of meeting program goals. Each semester, composite data from scored student assignments will be analyzed to address areas of program strengths and weaknesses and to inform decisions resulting in program improvements.

Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) – as aligned with KU SLOs* derived from the Institutional Mission and GE SLOs**. (Data from Direct and Indirect Measures collected each semester in the Capstone Course or a designated, end-of-program course.)

Students who graduate with a B.A. in Spanish should be able to:

SLO1: (KU1; GE: K3, S1, S2, S4, S5)
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)*

**Direct Measure:** SPAN 4700: Capstone Seminar Course: Oral presentations, short reflective papers, formal research assignment of 8-10 pages, final exam

**Indirect Measure:** Graduating Student Survey

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SLO2: *(KU1, KU2; GE: K3, K4, S1, S2, S4, S5)*

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)*

**Direct Measure:** SPAN 4700: Capstone Seminar Course: group projects, short reflective papers, formal written assignments of 8-10 pages, final exam

**Indirect Measure:** Graduating Student Survey

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SLO3 (KU1, KU2, KU3, KU4; GE: K3, K4, S1, S2, S4, S5)

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)*

**Direct Measure:** SPAN 4700: Capstone Seminar Course: electronic assignments, group projects, oral presentations, short reflective papers, formal written research project of 8-10 pages, final exam

**Indirect Measure:** Formal written research project and oral defense

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SLO4: *(KU1; GE: K3, S1, S2, S4, S5)*

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 geo-cultural context). *(KU1; GE: K3, S1, S2, S4, S5)*

**Direct Measure:** SPAN 4700: Capstone Seminar Course: oral presentations, in-class timed writing, book reviews, creative writing, essays, midterm and final exams, short reflective papers, formal written research project of 8-10 pages

**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 (Prof. pgms)

**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.