

Spanish Program Assessment 2022-2023

The Spanish Program met for 1h on Tuesday February 14th with the following professors present: Lilian Contreras-Silva, José Vilahomat, Garbiñe Vidal-Torreira, Ruth Yuste-Alonso, Irmina Fabricio, and Cori French. During this meeting we decided to assess LG 7 for our Spanish majors and coordinated our LA assessment for Spanish which will address culture.

On Monday the 1st of May the Spanish Section met again for 1h to discuss the oral comprehensive exam presentations that our five graduating majors did on Thursday the 6th of April. The presentations were evaluated with a rubric based on the parameters set for our Learning Goal 7. The student presentations were evaluated collectively and in consensus by the professors.

Learning Goal 7: “Express orally in Spanish complex thoughts and ideas with an expansive vocabulary, compound-complex sentences with a wide variety of tenses and moods, and with accurate Spanish pronunciation.”

The following table represents the direct assessment of our graduating majors’ performance:

	Content Thoughts & Ideas	Vocabulary	Grammar & Syntax	Pronunciation & Fluency
Student A	100%	90%	85%	85%
Student B	100%	95%	95%	100%
Student C	95%	100%	100%	100%
Student D	100%	100%	95%	95%
Student E	100%	100%	100%	95%
Averages	99%	97%	95%	95%

Letter Grade	A	B	C	D
Students	5	0	0	0

All categories in the assessment of LG7 add up to an average of: 96.5%.

To gather data for indirect assessment, graduating students were asked in their exit survey: “To what extent do you feel your coursework helped you develop the ability to express orally in Spanish complex thoughts and ideas with an expansive vocabulary, compound-complex sentences with a wide variety of tenses and moods, and with accurate Spanish pronunciation?”

	Very much	Quite a bit	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all
Student 1		x			
Student 2	x				
Student 3		x			

Graduating seniors’ assessment of their skills and ours correspond, thus showing consistency.

Conclusions:

Our graduating majors meet our LG7. We are particularly proud of the work they have done to meet our departmental goals during the COVID-19 pandemic. Oral capabilities are hard to practice with online courses. There was a loss of opportunities offered by the community to practice Spanish orally in spite of which our students excelled. This is not surprising given that in our classes all professors of Spanish pay special attention to oral expression through in class participation, group work, and presentations -among others- we feel confident that our students are finding the spaces to become proficient in their oral skills. We are not proposing any changes for this goal at the moment, and we are committed to this continued effort.

Future Plans:

We intend to continue working on oral expression in all our courses. We believe that practicing their writing skills has also strengthened our students' abilities orally. For the 2023-2024 AY we plan on assessing LG6 "Develop the ability to write proficiently in Spanish without the use of a dictionary or textbook composing compound-complex sentences with a wide variety of simple and perfect tenses in both the indicative and subjunctive moods."