**LA Capacity Assessment Languages
Department AY 2020-2021**

The LA department held a discussion on May 10th and a meeting in May 12th, 2021, to discuss assessment of the departmental learning goal #2: The Ability to Understand the Language.

The May 10th discussion included:
Gabby Vidal-Torreira
Severine Cottrant-Estell
Cori French
Lillian Contreras-Silva
Martin Shedd
Wenjia Liu
José Vilahomat
Irmina Fabricio
Stan Rauh
Rebecca Resinski
Cathy Jellenik

The May 10th discussion resulted in the development of language-specific definitions regarding our departmental learning goals, now included on the Direct and Indirect Assessment Rubrics, attached to this report.

The May 12th meeting included:
Gabby Vidal-Torreira
Severine Cottrant-Estell
Cori French
Lillian Contreras-Silva
Martin Shedd
Wenjia Liu
José Vilahomat
Irmina Fabricio
Cathy Jellenik

The May 12th meeting entailed a discussion of our assessment data and plans to improve student learning.

Analysis and Summary of Direct Assessment Data: Ability to Understand the Language: Assessed via Chapter tests and final exams in all languages.

Ability to Understand the Language:
According to our direct assessment data, our department was effective in fostering student ability to "understand" the language:
43 % of students performed at the level of **high-achieving**
43% of students performed at the level of **competent**;
9% of students performed at the level of needs **improvement**;
and 5% of students performed at the level of **unsatisfactory**.

Proposed Changes to Improve Student Learning

We were largely pleased with our department-wide results, but will nevertheless enact some changes for next year in order to improve student learning:

- Greek: we will research a new textbook. Because Greek was not taught this year, a new textbook was not initiated, but will be in 2021-2022.
- French: Listening understanding/comprehension needs improvement; our usual activities proved difficult given the exigencies of the pandemic, but in the next academic year we expect an improved ability to include more aural practice (radio broadcasts, French films) in our daily classes as well as co-curricular events. Reading comprehension is exceptional amongst French students; we will seek to achieve a similar level in listening.
- Spanish: we are seeking better ways to utilize the textbook and condense the grammar in order to improve understanding of the language.

Analysis and Summary of Indirect Assessment Data: Ability to Understand the Language: Assessed via Student Surveys in all languages in addition to course feedback in Chinese and Spanish, and interviews in French and Latin (Greek was not taught this AY).

Ability to Understand the Language:

According to our indirect assessment data, student perception of their ability to "understand" all departmental languages offered this year was high:

With the statement: "This course improved my ability to understand the language":

70% of students surveyed *strongly agree*;
26% of students surveyed "*agree*";
3% of students surveyed "*somewhat agree*";
1% of students surveyed "*neither agree nor disagree.*"

Proposed Changes

We were largely pleased with these results, but will nevertheless enact a change for next year in order to increase our amount of data:

We hope to improve our response rate due to the return to on-campus classes.