

Central Washington University
Assessment of Student Learning
Department and Program Report

Please enter the appropriate information concerning your student learning assessment activities for this year.

Academic Year of Report: *2011-2012*
Department: *World Languages*

College: *Arts and Humanities*
Program: _____

1. What student learning outcomes were assessed this year, and why?

In answering this question, please identify the specific student learning outcomes you assessed this year, reasons for assessing these outcomes, with the outcomes written in clear, measurable terms, and note how the outcomes are linked to department, college and university mission and goals.

Specific outcomes were not identified for assessment. I became department chair after classes began in September and no one told me that I needed to prepare for this assessment report. However, I took the opportunity in the fall of 2011 to create a departmental assessment committee that would be in charge of creating assessment tools and targets to guide us in the future. Their primary charge for the year was to update our alumni/graduate exit survey to provide more focused feedback on their language skills and on our programs in general. The new survey is now being implemented and we have some preliminary data as of June, 2012.

2. How were they assessed?

In answering these questions, please concisely describe the specific methods used in assessing student learning. Please also specify the population assessed, when the assessment took place, and the standard of mastery (criterion) against which you will compare your assessment results. If appropriate, please list survey or questionnaire response rate from total population.

Students were assessed via an exit survey. The survey was sent to all World Languages majors who graduated in 2011-2012. The survey was sent in June, 2012, shortly after graduation. Since I was unaware that this assessment report was required, we did not set any standards of mastery. We received 7 responses to the survey out of approximately 15-20 graduates.

A) What methods were used?

Survey only.

B) Who was assessed?

All graduating World Language majors.

C) When was it assessed?

June, 2012

3. What was learned?

In answering this question, please report results in specific qualitative or quantitative terms, with the results linked to the outcomes you assessed, and compared to the standard of mastery (criterion) you noted above. Please also include a concise interpretation or analysis of the results.

In spite of not targeting any specific outcomes this year, the results of the survey are quite revealing. Of those who responded, overall satisfaction with our programs is very high. A sample of some of the most interesting data is summarized in the following table. All respondents agreed that they can understand their target language when spoken by a native speaker. All agreed further that they can speak about academic topics and the target language cultures. Finally, all respondents agreed that they would recommend their program to others. While the number of responses calls for a guarded approach to analysis and conclusions, we have a strong initial impression that our students are meeting our program objectives.

Graduate Survey Summary, June 2012

Total respondents: 7 with only 5 completing the survey beyond the first question.

<i>Question</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>
<i>18b. I can understand the target language when it is spoken to me at a natural speed by a native speaker.</i>	0	0	0	1	4
<i>20e. How strongly do you agree that you are able to speak in the target language about the following? -academic or technical topics</i>	0	0	1	3	1
<i>20f. How strongly do you agree that you are able to speak in the target language about the following? -the target language culture</i>	0	0	0	2	3
<i>22c. c. I would recommend this program to other students in the future.</i>	0	0	0	1	4
<i>Total</i>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	7 (37%)	12 (63%)

4. What will the department or program do as a result of that information?

In answering this question, please note specific changes to your program as they affect student learning, and as they are related to results from the assessment process. If no changes are planned, please describe why no changes are needed. In addition, how will the department report the results and changes to internal and external constituents (e.g., advisory groups, newsletters, forums, etc.).

We intend to implement a large number of changes to the curriculum, including, but not limited to, eliminating underenrolled majors, revamping the Spanish first and second year program, and

improving upper division content courses across all languages. These changes are not in direct response to this year's survey, but rather are the culmination of several years' planning.

5. What did the department or program do in response to last year's assessment information?

In answering this question, please describe any changes that have been made to improve student learning based on previous assessment results. Please also discuss any changes you have made to your assessment plan or assessment methods.

Last year's assessment report was filed late due to the unforeseen illness of our former department chair. The data reported only included Japanese, so the department not only has not had time to formulate a response to the report, but also have data that only addresses one language program. In short, the department has not done anything yet in response to last year's assessment.

6. Questions or suggestions concerning Assessment of Student Learning at Central Washington University:

Perhaps it would make more sense to perform these assessments less frequently than every year. It is extremely difficult to act as a department in response to such assessment on a yearly basis since it requires at least a year to develop curricula, etc. Also, for a small department like ours, the number of survey responses is so low that it can be dangerous to base changes on the responses of a mere handful of students.