

## Modern Languages

### Update on Recommendations for Action (2007)

#### Fall 2008

1. Develop standardized rubrics for oral and written assessment.

*We are currently reviewing several assessment rubrics and hope to have standardized rubrics in place by the end of Spring 2009.*

2. Investigate alternative oral assessment modes, such as software or Internet-based tools.

*Further research on these assessment modes will be conducted in Spring 2009.*

3. Consider alternate models for the senior culminating activity, including the possible addition of a comprehensive examination for Spanish majors and/or a revision of the current nature of the senior project. Consider adding an oral assessment component, such as an oral presentation or defense of the senior project before a committee and fellow language majors.

*Faculty members have investigated alternate senior project models and have met with colleagues at other institutions to discuss the advantages of their models. The Spanish Program has begun to phase in a new model consisting of a portfolio of 3 distinct monographs (in lieu of one larger research paper) and is also currently considering the adoption of an exit exam, which would include an oral component.*

4. Address the needs of majors in the process of preparing their senior project; to this end, evaluate the success of the newly introduced Spanish 499, Senior Project class (Fall 2007).

*Because of the nature of the former senior project, the 499 class was not considered to have offered enough support to majors in the completion of their papers. With the change in the senior project itself, we will have to reevaluate the usefulness of the corresponding class.*

5. Create an *Introduction to Literary Studies* course as a core requirement for the Spanish major and a prerequisite for the following literature courses: SPAN 430, 431, 432, and 433.

*The Introduction to Literary Studies course was created during the summer of 2008 and will be piloted in Spring 2009.*

6. Revise course outlines to reflect the current syllabi, course objectives and learning outcomes, and ensure that course goals, expectations, and policies are clearly communicated to students.

*Some course outlines have already been revised, and some remain to be reviewed by faculty.*

7. Investigate alternate study abroad options.

*Dr. Capraroiu is in the process of investigating alternate options for study abroad, such as instructor-led trips and summer or winter semester study options.*

8. Incorporate innovative multi-media resources into the language classroom and the language laboratory; assess the ways in which the lab is currently used, its current materials, resources, etc.

*Full-time and adjunct instructors have met to discuss, encourage and share strategies regarding the incorporation of multi-media resources in the classroom; it appears that technology is being utilized much more—and more effectively—than in the past. We have yet to undertake a detailed review of the language laboratory.*