

German Minor

Goal: Establish Cultural Awareness Measure and Benchmark

Goal Description:

WOLC’s Curriculum and Assessment Committee will explore cultural awareness measures for minor students in German. Using peer-reviewed research and best practices for German language and culture instruction, the committee will determine appropriate benchmark levels for students in the minor.

Providing Department: German Minor

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Learning Objective: Cultural Competence and Awareness

Learning Objective Description:

While WOLC's Curriculum and Assessment Committee explores possible measures for evaluating cultural competence and awareness, the department will temporarily assess cultural awareness using a modified version of the Cross-Cultural Competence Inventory (3CI).

Testing German minors using the modified 3CI will help WOLC to establish an appropriate baseline for these students.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Indicator: Cultural Competence and Awareness

Indicator Description:

Prior to graduation, all graduating minors in German will take the modified 3CI.

Criterion Description:

3CI is a 63-item inventory rated on a 7-point Likert scale. The test is statistically reliable and measures cognitive, emotional, and behavioral aspects of cross-cultural behaviors.

Findings Description:

WOLC will roll this assessment measure forward as we continue exploring appropriate assessment measures.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action: Cultural Competence and Awareness

Action Description:

WOLC will roll this assessment measure forward as we continue exploring appropriate assessment measures.

Goal: Establish Oral Proficiency Measure and Benchmark

Goal Description:

WOLC’s Curriculum and Assessment Committee will explore language proficiency testing for minor students in German. Using peer-reviewed research and best practices for German language instruction, the committee will determine appropriate benchmark levels for students in the minor. Long-term testing of minors using the OPI-C is cost-prohibitive (\$70/test) so the committee will explore new options to make testing equitable and affordable.

Providing Department: German Minor

RELATED ITEMS/ELEMENTS -----

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 1

Learning Objective: Oral Proficiency

Learning Objective Description:

While WOLC's Curriculum and Assessment Committee identifies alternative measures for measuring oral proficiency, the department will assess the German minors' oral proficiency using the ACTFL OPI-c.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

Indicator: Oral Proficiency

Indicator Description:

Prior to graduation, a sample of a minimum of 50% of graduating seniors will take the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Oral Proficiency Interview - Computerized (OPI-C) SHSU Testing Center.

Criterion Description:

All minor students taking the OPI-C will obtain a minimum score of Intermediate Mid. ACTFL describes this level as follows:

Speakers at the Intermediate Mid sublevel are able to handle successfully a variety of uncomplicated communicative tasks in straightforward social situations. Conversation is generally limited to those predictable and concrete exchanges necessary for survival in the target culture. These include personal information related to self, family, home, daily activities, interests and personal preferences, as well as physical and social needs, such as food, shopping, travel, and lodging.

Intermediate Mid speakers tend to function reactively, for example, by responding to direct questions or requests for information. However, they are capable of asking a variety of questions when necessary to obtain simple information to satisfy basic needs, such as directions, prices, and services. When called on to perform functions or handle topics at the Advanced level, they provide some information but have difficulty linking ideas, manipulating time and aspect, and using communicative strategies, such as circumlocution.

Intermediate Mid speakers are able to express personal meaning by creating with the language, in part by combining and recombining known elements and conversational input to produce responses typically consisting of sentences and strings of sentences. Their speech may contain pauses, reformulations, and self-corrections as they search for adequate vocabulary and appropriate language forms to express themselves. In spite of the limitations in their vocabulary and/or pronunciation and/or grammar and/or syntax, Intermediate Mid speakers are generally understood by sympathetic interlocutors accustomed to dealing with non-natives.

Overall, Intermediate Mid speakers are at ease when performing Intermediate-level tasks and do so with significant quantity and quality of Intermediate-level language.

Findings Description:

WOLC will roll this assessment measure forward as we continue exploring appropriate assessment measures.

RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

Action: Oral Proficiency

Action Description:

WOLC will roll this assessment measure forward as we continue exploring appropriate assessment measures.

Update to Previous Cycle's Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Previous Cycle's Plan For Continuous Improvement (Do Not Modify):

Closing Summary

- 1) Pilot test the Cross-Cultural Competence Inventory (3CI) with currently enrolled students to establish a benchmark and begin validating the measure.
- 2) Explore oral language proficiency testing options to replace the cost-prohibitive OPIc

Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

1) Pilot test the Cross-Cultural Competence Inventory (3CI) with currently enrolled students to establish a benchmark and begin validating the measure.

- Moved to next cycle.

2) Explore oral language proficiency testing options to replace the cost-prohibitive OPIc

- Moved to next cycle.

New Plan for Continuous Improvement Item

Closing Summary:

Closing Summary

1) Pilot test the Cross-Cultural Competence Inventory (3CI) with currently enrolled students to establish a benchmark and begin validating the measure.

2) Explore oral language proficiency testing options to replace the cost-prohibitive OPIc