

# Latin American and LatinX Studies 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 Latin American and Latinx Studies. Using peer-reviewed research and best practices for cultural instruction, the committee will determine appropriate benchmark levels for students in the minor.

### Providing Department: Latin American and LatinX Studies 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).

##### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 2

### Indicator: Cultural Competence and Awareness

#### Indicator Description:

Prior to graduation, all graduating minors in Latin American and LatinX Studies 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:

No LALS minors completed the 3CI inventory in the 2023-2024 cycle, thus this metric will be moved forward to the next cycle. The WOLC assessment team identified an additional research paper that reported the internal validation procedure for the instrument. This process removed repetitive questions from the originally published inventory; the instrument that we will deploy in the 2024-2025 cycle consists of 46 items (a 27% reduction in length). The team anticipates that this will improve buy-in and compliance with the instrument.

##### RELATED ITEM LEVEL 3

### Action: Cultural Competence and Awareness

#### Action Description:

The WOLC assessment team will proceed with the most recent version of this instrument, which reduced the inventory from 63 items to 46 (a 27% reduction in length). The instrument will be converted to a Qualtrics survey that will be deployed to a sample of graduating seniors. Based on the Fall 2025 compliance and outcomes, WOLC will determine the efficacy of expanding the testing pool in both number of students and language learning levels.

## 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.

### Update of Progress to the Previous Cycle's PCI:

No LALS minors completed the 3CI inventory in the 2023-2024 cycle. The assessment team discovered a newer version of the instrument that resulted from extensive internal validation of the 63-item instrument. The department will move forward with testing in the 2024-2025 cycle to establish a baseline and determine appropriate sample size for this instrument.

## **New Plan for Continuous Improvement Item**

### **Closing Summary:**

After several challenging years for implementing assessment metrics, WOLC is confident that the department will be able to carry out a complete assessment of LALS minors using the reduced 3CI inventory. WOLC has established one goal for the 2024-2025 cycle for the LALS minor program:

- Implement assessment of Cultural Competence using the internally validated version of the 3CI.
  - Deploy Qualtrics version of this instrument beginning in Fall 2024. Pending findings from the Fall 2024 assessment, determine whether to expand assessment to a larger pool of students and/or use the instrument to assess other aspects of the GERM program (e.g., development of Cultural Competence over time, etc...).