Hispanic Language and Literature Program Academic Learning Compact

| OBJECTIVES | OUTCOMES | MEASURES TO TRACK STUDENT PROGRESS AND SPECIFIC MEASURES TO DEMONSTRATE EACH GRADUATE'S COMPETENCIES |
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| To provide quality instruction in Spanish that will allow our students to reach an advanced level of aural/oral and reading/writing performance. | 1. Students will acquire the ability to communicate effectively in open-ended situations, with adequate control of structures and clear pronunciation. They will be able to attend and enjoy cultural programs (films, theatre, etc.); they will be prepared to follow classes and lectures, and to effectively participate in them; they will be capable of taking part in discussions (academic/professional) within their areas of expertise. Students will demonstrate the ability to read and discuss unedited texts of considerable complexity, and the ability to write essays with adequate control of structures and vocabulary and free of systematic compositional problems. | 1. Communicative skills. Evaluation of competence as evidenced by linguistic performance is done through a variety of instruments in the context of courses and other academic activities: reading & listening comprehension exercises and tests; oral presentations and class discussions organized in a variety of formats; one-on-one student-faculty conferences and individualized discussion sessions; written assignments. Academic Activities: Communicative skills are key aspects of all the courses, beginning with Elementary and Intermediate Spanish. They are one of the central components in Composition & Conversation, Lecturas Hispánicas and specialized tutorials emphasizing oral, aural, and reading skills. They are inscribed as learning modules in Advanced Spanish courses, and in specialized tutorials and independent research projects emphasizing reading comprehension and writing skills. |
| 2. To develop a reflexive understanding of the language, and a critical understanding and artistic appreciation of the literature of the Hispanic world. | 2. Students will develop a reflexive knowledge of Spanish grammar that will inform their linguistic performances and will allow them to continue their process of learning beyond the period of formal instruction. Students will develop analytical and interpretive discipline, and will acquire the ability to formulate a | 2. Critical thinking and Specific Content. Evaluation is conducted through: *Grammar exams emphasizing analysis and production of structures, and the explanation and production of grammatical 'rules'. *Exercises in translation of a variety of literary and non-literary genres. *Edition and annotation of texts in Spanish (for language and cultural context). *Production of written essays in a variety of formats (book reviews, |

critique of the works they are reading. Students will acquire the ability to communicate in educated conversation their personal response to the works and issues under consideration. They will demonstrate ability to conduct an informed discussion of particular authors, works, and periods.

descriptive and interpretive essays, research reports, and research papers). *All students pursuing de Hispanic Language AOC must write a senior thesis (or present a final portfolio of written work if pursuing it as a joint AOC).

*Oral presentations (individual or in group) and leading group discussions.
*All students pursuing the Hispanic Language AOC must satisfactorily complete a baccalaureate exam.

Academic Activities:

The reflexive study of grammar is introduced in the Elementary and Intermediate sequence in Spanish. It becomes one of the central components of Composition and Conversation, and Lecturas Hispánicas. It is further developed according to specific need through Advanced Grammar Tutorials.

Lecturas Hispánicas introduces the student into advanced work in the language, which involves a more developed use of Spanish for analytical and interpretive operations, and the processing of increasingly complex information. This kind of work constitutes the central component of the Advanced Spanish Courses, the Literature/Culture oriented Tutorials and Independent Research Projects, the Literature Courses in Translation, and the Thesis Tutorial.

- 3. To promote an understanding of the Spanish-speaking world that will make possible the appreciation of cultural specificity and diversity.
- 3. Students will develop awareness of cultural differences and the ability to express it. They will demonstrate ability to adapt to a different cultural environment and to reflect on the experience.

3. Specific Content and Critical Thinking

*Students develop special projects for courses devoted to the presentation of culture, and complete special projects as part of their Independent Study Projects and study-abroad experiences.

Academic Activities:

In addition to study-abroad and ISPs, this kind of work in developed in the

| 4. To help our students define and develop sound intellectual practices and to introduce them to the work of scholars and researchers committed to the study of the | 4. Students will acquire research skills and independent study methods that will allow them to further their intellectual inquiry on the Hispanic world. | Advanced Spanish Courses, Culture oriented Tutorials and Independent Research Projects, and the Literature Courses in Translation. 4. All students with an area of concentration in Spanish are required to research and write a senior thesis under the supervision of a member of the Spanish faculty, and to defend it in a public, oral baccalaureate exam. Theses are judged according to the |
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| Hispanic world. | | comprehensiveness of the research, the strength of the ideas and interpretations, and the quality of the writing. Performance on the baccalaureate exam is evaluated according to how well the student responds to questions, demonstrates knowledge of the field, and presents her or his own ideas and interpretations. |

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Students will demonstrate the ability to read and discuss unedited texts of considerable complexity, and the ability to write essays with adequate control of structures and vocabulary and free of systematic compositional problems.

Students will develop a reflexive knowledge of Spanish grammar that will inform their linguistic performances and will allow them to continue their process of learning beyond the period of formal instruction.

Students will develop analytical and interpretive discipline, and will acquire the ability to formulate a critique of the works they are reading. Students will acquire the ability to communicate in educated conversation their personal response to the works and issues under consideration. They will demonstrate ability to conduct an informed discussion of particular authors, works, and periods.

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