

Assessment Report
Academic Year 2022-2023
French Studies
Major/Minor Aggregate Report

I. Logistics

1. The feedback should be sent to Matthew Motyka (mjmotyka@usfca.edu) and Karen Bouwer (bouwerk@usfca.edu).
2. We file an aggregate report for the major and minor. Given that the majors are either taking independent studies or not taking a French Studies class at the moment, we are not able to submit an assessment report for this period. We have evaluated PLO 2 for the minors.

CURRICULUM MAP, FRENCH STUDIES: MAJOR
(I=introductory, D=developing, M=mastery).

CURRICULUM MAP, FRENCH STUDIES: MINOR

PLOs	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Express info verbally	Write using disciplinary conventions	Comprehend oral discourse	Analyze cultural phenomena	Identify artistic & cultural figures	Appreciate social cultural diversity
FREN 133	D		D		I	I
FREN 195 (Cuisine)				I	I	I
FREN 195 (Congo)				I	I	I
FREN 250				I	I	I
FREN 260				I	I	I
FREN 340				I	I	I
FREN 202	D	D	D	I	I	D
FREN 255	D	I	D	D	I	D
FREN 265	D	I	D	I	I	D
FREN 275	D	I	D	I	D	D
FREN 312	D	D	D			I
FREN 313	D	D	D			I
FREN 315	D	D	D	D	D	D
FREN 320	D	D	D	D	D	D
FREN 322	D	D	D	D	D	D
FREN 324	D	D	D	D	D	D
FREN 330	D	D	D	D	D	D
FREN 332	D	D	D	D	D	D
FREN 440	M	M	M	M	M	M
FREN 450	M	M	M	M	M	M

(I=introductory, D=developing, M=mastery).

PLOs	1	2	3	6
	Express info verbally	Write using disciplinary conventions	Comprehend oral discourse	Appreciate social cultural diversity
FREN 133	D		D	I
FREN 195 (Cuisine)				I
FREN 195 (Congo)				I
FREN 250				I
FREN 260				I
FREN 340				I
FREN 202	D	I	D	D
FREN 255	D	I	D	D
FREN 265	D	I	D	D
FREN 275	D	I	D	D
FREN 312	D	D	D	I
FREN 313	D	D	D	I
FREN 315	D	D	D	D
FREN 320	D	D	D	D
FREN 322	D	D	D	D
FREN 324	D	D	D	D
FREN 330	D	D	D	D
FREN 332	D	D	D	D
FREN 440	M	M	M	M
FREN 450	M	M	M	M

II. Mission Statement & Program Learning Outcomes

1. French Studies' mission statement derives directly from that of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (the new name of Modern and Classical Languages). There has been **no** change in the mission statement since the last assessment. The major and the minor don't have a separate mission statement.

Mission Statement (LLC)

Inspired by the Statement of Mission of the University of San Francisco, a Jesuit and Catholic university, the Department of Modern and Classical Languages states as its essential objective to "offers students the knowledge and skills needed to succeed as persons and professionals, and the values and sensitivity necessary to be men and women for others." The Department promotes language acquisition for academic and professional needs and promotes the multidisciplinary study of cultures and societies

within our increasingly multicultural communities in order to foster sensitivity and openness to be of service to others.

The objective of the French Studies major is to provide oral and written competence in the language and a solid background in the literature and culture of the countries of the French-speaking world.

2. PLOs (**No** changes in the PLOs since the last report)

Major:

1. Express information and opinions verbally in consistent, effective and clear French.
2. Write in French using the disciplinary conventions and methodologies of literary and cultural analysis.
3. Comprehend oral discourse produced by native speakers of French.
4. Analyze the main ideas of various cultural phenomena, such as literature, art, music, film and popular media.
5. Identify major artistic and cultural figures of the French-speaking world in the context of their historical, cultural, and/or aesthetic traditions.
6. Appreciate the linguistic, ethnic, racial, religious, cultural and social diversity of the French-speaking world.

Minor:

1. Express information and opinions verbally in consistent, effective and clear French.
2. Write in French using the disciplinary conventions and methodologies of literary and cultural analysis.
3. Comprehend oral discourse produced by native speakers of French.
4. Appreciate the linguistic, ethnic, racial, religious, cultural and social diversity of the French-speaking world. (#6 for the major)

For this period, we assessed **PLO 2: Write in French using the disciplinary conventions and methodologies of literary and cultural analysis**. When we last assessed this outcome (Fall 2018), we were able to draw on students in a 400-level course who had completed a research paper. At the time there were four students in the class, three of them were senior French

Studies majors. This time, we are focusing on Minors handing in work at the mid-semester point.

III. Methodology

The method of assessment was direct. Short papers (900-1000 words) submitted by students in FREN 330 Rencontres: L'Afrique francophone (Fall 2023) were jointly assessed by Profs. Bouwer and Motyka.

Students were given a variety of topics to choose from based on literary readings done over a period of 3.5 weeks. The guidelines required students to do a comparative analysis of two to three literary texts and to include concrete details and quotes to support their arguments.

Assessed here is the performance of two students enrolled in the Minor in French Studies (one a Junior and one a Senior).

Papers were evaluated for

- meeting (in-depth analysis, clear development of thesis, pertinent use of textual evidence to support arguments, appropriate citing of works and bibliography),
- partially meeting (perfunctory analysis, weak development of ideas, adequate use of examples), or
- not meeting

the various criteria.

Criteria	Student 1	Student 2
1. Literary analysis (based on close readings that had been modeled in class)	Met	Met
2. Clear development of thesis	Met	Met
3. Appropriate citing of literary texts	Met	Met
4. Bibliography using MLA or another professional format	Met	Met

Discussion of results:

The sample is small but the results demonstrate that this outcome is being satisfactorily met by French Studies minors enrolled in a 300-level course.

IV. Results and Major Findings

As is evident in the table above, the students met the requirements, thereby fulfilling the learning outcome.

V. Closing the Loop

Our assessment efforts have consistently shown that both our major and minor students are meeting the PLOs. This despite the fact that enrollments impose constraints on the number of courses we can offer. The small number of classes also means that students sometimes have to take courses out of the ideal, gradated order (i.e., students will sometimes take a 200-level course after having completed a 300-level course). We work with students individually in order to provide extra support or extra challenges, depending on what is required, thereby mitigating the effects of the modest offerings of our program.

In Spring 2024, we will gather materials from both Majors and Minors in various courses so that they can be included in the assessment due in Fall 2024.