

ASSESSMENT REPORT For the Minor in German Studies - ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-22

Alternative Assessment

As outlined in previous assessment reports, there has not been a full-time faculty member teaching in German Studies since 2004, and the program has been directed by adjunct professor Dr. Susanne Hoelscher since 2007; the lack of a full faculty position has restricted the resources that need to be invested in the program in order to lead it to its full potential and growth. Furthermore, enrollment was severely impacted by the Covid pandemic, and only 4 students graduated with the German Minor in the spring of 2022.

Since this number is too small for a valid data analysis, the Faculty Director of Curriculum Development in the Humanities, Dr. Mark Merritt, suggested to collect assessment data over the span of two or three years and provide a longer-range assessment at that time. As documented in the report for AY 2020-21, and copied below, the focus of the next assessment should be on PLO 3: *Explain major historical, intellectual, and artistic movements which have influenced German-speaking cultures in the 20th and 21st centuries.* Dr. Hoelscher will collect the data for all graduating German Minors and foresees to provide a more conclusive assessment than would be possible at this time in AY 2024-25.

For the record, general information and curricular maps for the German Studies Minor are included below.

Minor in German Studies – General Information

1. Name and email of the program contact person to whom feedback should be sent:

Susanne H. Hoelscher (shhoelscher@usfca.edu)

2. Mission Statement:

The Mission of the Minor in German Studies is to educate students in the German language and German speaking cultures in preparation for their future studies and professional careers and to broaden their intercultural competence in an increasingly globalized world.

3. Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):

1. Communicate in German at the novice-high to intermediate-low level based on the *ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012*, or at the A.2 to B.1 level of the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*.
2. Comprehend day-to-day oral discourse produced by native speakers of German.
3. Explain major historical, intellectual, and artistic movements which have influenced German-speaking cultures in the 20th and 21st centuries.
4. Analyze the main ideas of various cultural phenomena in German speaking countries, such as literature, art, music, film, and popular media.
5. Appreciate the linguistic, ethnic, racial, religious, cultural, and social diversity within German countries and communities.

4. Assessment Schedule between APRs

The last Program Review for German Studies and the other programs of the Modern and Classical Languages Department (now Languages, Literatures, and Cultures – LLC) was conducted in Spring 2016. Here are the PLOs that were assessed for the following academic years:

- 2016-17:
PLO 1. Communicate in German at the novice-high to intermediate-low level based on the *ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012*, or at the A.2 to B.1 level of the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*.
- 2017-18:
PLO 4. Analyze the main ideas of various cultural phenomena in German speaking countries, such as literature, art, music, film, and popular media.
- 2018-19:
PLO 5. Appreciate the linguistic, ethnic, racial, religious, cultural, and social diversity within German countries and communities.
- 2019-20: Due to the switch to online instruction in Spring 2020, an alternative assessment report not focusing on a specific PLO was filed
- 2020-21:
PLO 2. Comprehend day-to-day oral discourse produced by native speakers of German.
- 2021-22:
PLO 3. Explain major historical, intellectual, and artistic movements which have influenced German-speaking cultures in the 20th and 21st centuries.

5. Curricular Maps

5.1. GMST Program Learning Outcomes and Course Learning Outcomes¹

	1. Communicate in German at the novice-high to intermediate-low level based on the <i>ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012</i> , or at the A.2 to B.1 level of the <i>Common European Framework of Reference for Languages</i>	2. Comprehend day-to-day oral discourse produced by native speakers of German.	3. Explain major historical, intellectual, and artistic movements which have influenced German-speaking cultures in the 20 th and 21 st centuries	4. Analyze the main ideas of various cultural phenomena in German speaking countries, such as literature, art, music, film, and popular media	5. Appreciate the linguistic, ethnic, racial, religious, cultural and social diversity within German countries and communities
GMST LANGUAGE COURSES					
101: First Semester	I	I	I	I	D
102: Second Semester	D	D	I	D	D
201: Third Semester	D	D	I	D	D
202: Fourth Semester	M	M	D	M	D
305: Conversation and Writing	M	M	D	M	D
310: Advanced Readings and Composition	M	M	M	M	M
398: Dir. Reading and Research	M	M	M	M	M

¹ I – Introductory, D-Developing, M – Mastery (measured by set Learning Outcome)

	1. Communicate in German at the novice-high to intermediate-low level based on the <i>ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012</i> , or at the A.2 to B.1 level of the <i>Common European Framework of Reference for Languages</i>	2. Comprehend day-to-day oral discourse produced by native speakers of German.	3. Explain major historical, intellectual, and artistic movements which have influenced German-speaking cultures in the 20 th and 21 st centuries	4. Analyze the main ideas of various cultural phenomena in German speaking countries, such as literature, art, music, film and popular media	5. Appreciate the linguistic, ethnic, racial, religious, cultural and social diversity within German countries and communities
GMST LITERATURE AND CULTURE COURSES (IN ENGLISH)					
315: Contemporary German Civilization	N/A	N/A	M	M	M
318: Jewish Lit & Culture in 20th Century Europe	N/A	N/A	M	M	M
320: German Lit & Culture from 1945 to Today	N/A	N/A	M	M	M
350: Paris/Berlin at the Turn into the 20th Century	N/A	N/A	M	M	M

5.2. Institutional Learning Outcomes and GMST Program Learning Outcomes

Institutional Learning Outcomes X Program Learning Outcomes	Students reflect on and analyze their attitudes, beliefs, values, and assumptions about diverse communities and cultures and contribute to the common good.	Students explain and apply disciplinary concepts, practices, and ethics of their chosen academic discipline in diverse communities.	Students construct, interpret, analyze, and evaluate information and ideas derived from a multitude of sources.	Students communicate effectively in written and oral forms to interact within their personal and professional communities.	Students use technology to access and communicate information in their personal and professional lives.	Students use multiple methods of inquiry and research processes to answer questions and solve problems.	Students describe, analyze, and evaluate global interconnectedness in social, economic, environmental and political systems that shape diverse groups within the San Francisco Bay Area and the world.
Communicate in German at the novice-high to intermediate-low level based on the <i>ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012</i> , or at the A.2 to B.1 level of the <i>Common European Framework of Reference for Languages</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X
Comprehend day-to-day oral discourse produced by native speakers of German.		X	X	X			
Explain major historical, intellectual, and artistic movements which have influenced German-speaking cultures in the 20 th and 21 st centuries	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Analyze the main ideas of various cultural phenomena in German speaking countries, such as literature, art, music, film and popular media	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Appreciate the linguistic, ethnic, racial, religious, cultural and social diversity within German countries and communities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

