

Modern Languages

2008-2009

Mission Statement

The Spanish Program is the central resource at CSUS for the teaching and study of cultures in and through Spanish. The Program's members, grounded broadly in humanistic scholarship through the study of literature, culture and linguistics, seek to understand cultures through their texts, documents, and history and to pass on that understanding to their students. The Program supports the university's mission by providing opportunities for our students to develop critical approaches to past and contemporary cultures, while striving to prepare students in all fields and disciplines for the challenges and opportunities of global culture, as well as economic, social, and political change. The Program is central to the university's vision of developing culturally informed global citizens who will become leaders and active contributors to their communities.

Program Goals

- Educate students with the most effective pedagogical, curricular, and technological tools available.
- Achievement a minimum of level three on the Program Oral Rubric. Provide the non-native students the opportunity to also achieve advanced proficiency in listening, speaking, and written communication at a level three, Advanced, for the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages, ACTFL.
- Achievement of appreciation and understanding of key literary works in their specific historic and cultural context in the Spanish speaking world.
- **Integration of undergraduate teaching and advanced scholarship.**
- Recruitment and retention of diverse, nationally and internationally recognized faculty, by supporting their productivity in research, scholarship of teaching, and scholarly outreach.
- Integration of study abroad programs and internship opportunities into the curriculum as well as support and development of innovative study abroad programs.

- Implementing a series of assessment tools to monitor the ongoing success of its educational mission.

Student Learning Goals/Objectives

- Develop analytical and critical reading skills, demonstrating the ability to read, comprehend and interpret a variety of culturally diverse literary, non-literary, visual, and multi-media texts.
- Understand and interpret the target language and gain the ability to present information, concepts, and ideas in the target language to a diverse audience of listeners or readers.
- Interpret a variety of literary and linguistic texts and understand their specific cultural and historic context throughout the Spanish speaking world.
- Demonstrate formal writing skills that exhibit a solid control of the grammar and well-developed arguments including: thesis, focus, explanation, description, definition, supportive arguments, examples, textual support, and supportive bibliography.
- Acquire literary, linguistic and theoretical information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints pertaining to the cultures studied.
- Acquire the abilities to become professionals in the fields of literature, linguistics, and/or second language teaching.

Part of the mission of the Spanish Program at California State University, Stanislaus is to assist students in developing productive speaking skills. The Spanish Program is acutely aware that the student must be able to speak and write at a level sufficient to function in different work and social environments. Thus, all Spanish majors are to achieve a level three competence in each of the points addressed on the different rubrics that Spanish faculty has devised for those purposes.