

Student Learning Outcomes Report

French WLLC 2024-25

Student Learning Outcome 1

In the French section, our first learning outcome is reading: advanced. The target level, advanced, is predicated on the guidelines created by the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). To clarify, the ACTFL guidelines are: Superior, Advanced High, Advanced Mid, Advanced Low, Intermediate High, Intermediate Mid, and Intermediate Low.

To assess this outcome, proficiency in reading is assessed in the 4000-level literature courses required for the French major. To evaluate reading proficiency, the professors use several exams to determine if students are comprehending and interpreting the texts correctly. The final exam is designed to evaluate the overall understanding of the literary texts covered during the semester. Students receiving a C or better in these courses will be judged to have achieved the projected outcome, which is the advanced level according to ACTFL guidelines. The method of assessment for this learning outcome is indirect, as we examine the students' grades at the close of the semester.

The 4000-level literature courses are offered every semester and rotate between Drs. Arenberg and Comfort. The two core professors all use a series of exams and a final exam to assess this outcome, with an additional goal of acquiring analytical skills, focusing on the development of textual analysis.

Assessment of Critical Thinking and Textual Analysis:

French 42403: Studies in Francophone Literature

A=5

B=6

C=0

D=0

F=0

The results of this outcome indicate a successful rate of achievement in the 4000-level French literature courses. The majority of our majors in our literature class received a grade of B or better.

Student Learning Outcome 2

The second learning outcome in our section is writing: advanced. All graduating majors in French are required to take two exams designed to assess their proficiency in the language. To achieve the writing outcome, compositions that are written for this course serve as an integral part of the assessment measure. FREN 40003 is taught by Dr. Comfort; she is the primary

evaluator for the writing outcome. The results of this exam are evaluated according to the ACTFL guidelines for written language proficiency. For this academic year, the results are as follows:

French 40003: Grammar and Composition

(Fall 2024):

6 advanced mid

6 advanced low

2 intermediate high

The results indicate that the majority of our students are achieving the advanced level, the target for our assessment goals.

Student Learning Outcome 3

As noted above, the second test required for our majors focuses on the third outcome, which is speaking. This exam is an OPI-inspired individual exam, evaluated according to the ACTFL guidelines for oral proficiency, which assesses listening and speaking skills. These oral exams are administered twice a semester: as a midterm conversation and as a final oral. The method of assessment is direct, as we have created a rubric to assess the learning outcome of this course. This rubric is used for the midterm and final oral interviews. Drs. Arenberg and Doucet are the primary evaluators for this OPI-inspired exam. The results are as follows:

French 40303: Oral Proficiency

(Spring 2025):

1 advanced high

2 advanced mids

1 advanced low

1 intermediate high

3 intermediate mid

French 40303: Oral Proficiency

(Fall 2024):

1 advanced high

1 advanced mid

3 advanced low

2 intermediate high

2 intermediate mids

In studying the outcomes, the results indicate that the oral proficiency level attained our target goal during the academic year of 2024-2025, with most of our students achieving the advanced level. The results for the academic year point to a slight increase in proficiency levels, an outcome which underscores the strength of our undergraduate program.

Student Learning Outcome 4

As noted in the third learning outcome, listening is also evaluated in our FREN 40303 course (Oral Proficiency). See the above description of the assessment measure for this outcome. It is important to underscore that listening and speaking are interwoven, hence the testing measure targets both key skills in achieving our learning outcomes for our majors.

Conclusion: Our majors continue to meet our expectations with regards to their learning outcomes. We do not foresee any radical changes in the immediate future but will strive to improve our assessment procedures.