UW-Platteville German Program Assessment Plan

Mission
The mission of the German program is multiple:
1. Serve well the general education mission of the university in the areas of foreign language competencies and the humanities.
2. Prepare students via language skills and cultural exposure for professions in business, law enforcement, communications, counseling, translation, and other fields.
3. Prepare highly qualified foreign language teachers in conjunction with the DPI and the UW-Platteville School of Education through our teaching-minor and teaching-major programs.
4. Students must also attain mastery in the areas of teaching methods and knowledge of theories of second language acquisition.

Goals and Student Learning Outcomes:

Goal 1: Proficient Oral Communication Skills

Student Learning Outcome 1: Student will demonstrate minimum oral proficiency at a level equivalent to Intermediate High on the ACTFL Proficiency Scale. OR Student will be able to (discuss, narrate, converse about) a wide range of general interest topics in most informal and some formal situations.

Student Learning Outcome 2: Student will be able to be understood without difficulty by speakers unaccustomed to non-native speakers.

Goal 2: Proficient Written Communication Skills

Student Learning Outcome 3: Student will demonstrate knowledge and skills in effective written presentation, grammatical accuracy, in informal and formal styles, at a level roughly equal to one’s oral proficiency.

Student Learning Outcome 4: Student will be able to (read, translate, analyze, explain, understand) a variety of authentic written materials (letters, poems, books, advertisements, street signs…).

Goal 3: Knowledge of Cultural Practices and Perspectives

Student Learning Outcome 5: Student will complete a period of language immersion in residence in a country in which the language is spoken.

Student Learning Outcome 6: Student will be able to (discuss, compare, describe, relate to) the historical, geographical, political, socioeconomical, literary and artistic features of a variety the peoples and countries that (speak, use) the target language.

Goal 4: To prepare highly qualified Foreign Language teachers in conjunction with the UW-Platteville School of Education.
Student Learning Outcome 7: Student will meet DPI requirements for certification as a Foreign Language teacher.

Student Learning Outcome 8: Student will attain a level of mastery in the areas of teaching methods and knowledge of theories of second language acquisition.

Matrix of Objectives and Courses Offered in a Foreign Language Major

Checked courses meet or contribute to meeting the student learning outcome objectives of the Foreign Language Major. Course descriptions (by course number) are found in the current Undergraduate Catalog.

Objectives:

1) Student will demonstrate minimum oral proficiency at a level equivalent to Intermediate High on the ACTFL Proficiency Scale. OR
   Student will be able to (discuss, narrate, converse about) a wide range of general interest topics in most informal and some formal situations

2) Student will be able to be understood without difficulty by speakers unaccustomed to non-native speakers.

3) Student will demonstrate knowledge and skills in effective written presentation, grammatical accuracy, in informal and formal styles, at a level roughly equal to one’s oral proficiency.

4) Student will be able to (read, translate, analyze, explain, understand) a variety of authentic written materials (letters, poems, books, advertisements, street signs ...)

5) Student will complete a period of language immersion in residence in a country in which the language is spoken.

6) Student will be able to (discuss, compare, describe, relate to) the historical, geographical, political, socio-economical, literary and artistic features of a variety the peoples and countries that (speak, use) the target language.

7) Student will meet DPI requirements for certification as a Foreign Language teacher.

8) Student will attain a level of mastery in the areas of teaching methods and knowledge of theories of second language acquisition.

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Appendix

Rubric Evaluating Teacher Preparation Programs in World Languages/German

The “Rubric for Evaluating Teacher Preparation Programs in World Languages—PI 34” was finalized by the DPI in February 2003. The rubric is informed by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) “Program Standards for Foreign Language Teacher Preparation,” and the goals set by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The rubric consists of thirteen “content guidelines” eleven of which are subsumed under the following five areas: Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. (A full text of the DPI’s “Rubric for Evaluating Teacher Preparation Programs in World Languages can be found in the appendix of this document.) In the field of foreign language education, these five content areas are commonly referred to as the “Five C’s.” In addition, teaching candidates in foreign languages are trained in linguistics and second language acquisition and their application to teaching languages. (These are the categories for content guideline 12 and 13 of the DPI’s Rubric.) The Rubric states the following: “The World Language teacher shall demonstrate knowledge of and skills in 13 areas, based on Wisconsin’s Model Academic Standards for Foreign Languages (for K-12 students). Listed below are the thirteen content guidelines:

Communication:

1. Interpersonal communication
2. Interpretive communication
3. Presentational communication

Culture:

4. Cultural practices and perspectives
5. Cultural products and perspectives
Connections:

6. Language connections across disciplines

7. Language connections to add perspectives

Comparisons:

8. Language comparisons

9. Cultural comparisons

Communities:

10. Communities for practical applications

11. Communities for personal enrichment

Linguistics and second language application:

12. A basic understanding of linguistics and second language acquisition

Application to teaching languages:

13. Lesson preparation and teaching performance
   The World Language teacher in French, German, and Spanish at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville shall demonstrate knowledge and skill in the following areas:

1. **Interpersonal communication:**

   Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations.

In German, these goals are met in the following courses taken on campus and their equivalents abroad: GERM 1240 Elementary German, 1340 Elementary German, 2240 Intermediate German, 2340 Intermediate German, 3220 German Conversation and Composition I, 3320 German Conversation and Composition II, 3330 German Literature of the 20th Century, 3430 German Literature of the 19th Century, 3530 German Civilization, 4000 Teaching of Foreign Languages, 4220 Phonetics, 4230 Survey of German Literature to 1750, Survey of German Literature since 1750.
2. **Interpretive communication:**

Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations.

In German, these goals are met in the following courses taken on campus and their equivalents abroad: GERM 1240 Elementary German, 1340 Elementary German, 2240 Intermediate German, 2340 Intermediate German, 3220 German Conversation and Composition I, 3320 German Conversation and Composition II, 3330 German Literature of the 20th Century, 3430 German Literature of the 19th Century, 3530 German Civilization, 4000 Teaching of Foreign Languages, 4220 Phonetics, 4230 Survey of German Literature since 1750.

3. **Presentational communication:**

Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations.

In German, these goals are met in the following courses taken on campus and their equivalents abroad: GERM 2240 Intermediate German, 2340 Intermediate German, 3220 German Conversation and Composition I, 3320 German Conversation and Composition II, 3330 German Literature of the 20th Century, 3430 German Literature of the 19th Century, 3530 German Civilization, 4000 Teaching of Foreign Languages, 4220 Phonetics.

4. **Cultural practices and perspectives:**

Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations.

In German, these goals are met in the following courses taken on campus and their equivalents abroad: GERM 1240 Elementary German, 1340 Elementary German, 2240 Intermediate German, 2340 Intermediate German, 3220 German Conversation and Composition I, 3320 German Conversation and Composition II, 3330 German Literature of the 20th Century, 3430 German Literature of the 19th Century, 3530 German Civilization, 4000 Teaching of Foreign Languages, 4220 Phonetics, 4230 Survey of German Literature to 1750, Survey of German Literature since 1750.
5. **Cultural products and perspectives:**

   Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations:

   In German, these goals are met in the following courses taken on campus and their equivalents abroad: GERM 1240 Elementary German, 1340 Elementary German, 2240 Intermediate German, 2340 Intermediate German, 3330 German Literature of the 20th Century, 3430 German Literature of the 19th Century, 3530 German Civilization, 4000 Teaching of Foreign Languages, 4230 Survey of German Literature to 1750, 4330 Survey of German Literature since 1750.

6. **Language connections across disciplines:**

   Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations in Teaching 4060, Teaching World Languages: Theory and Practice.

7. **Language connections to add perspectives:**

   Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all French/German/Spanish courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations in Teaching 4060, Teaching World Languages: Theory and Practice.

8. **Language comparisons:**

   Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations in Teaching 4060, Teaching World Languages: Theory and Practice. This topic is also treated and assessed in German 4220 Phonetics.

9. **Cultural comparisons:**

   Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations:

   In German, these goals are met in the following courses taken on campus and their equivalents abroad: GERM 1240 Elementary German, 1340 Elementary German, 2240 Intermediate German, 2340 Intermediate German, 3330 German
10. **Communities for practical applications:**

Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations Teaching 4060, Teaching World Languages: Theory and Practice.

11. **Communities for personal enrichment:**

Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations Teaching 4060, Teaching World Languages: Theory and Practice.

12. **A basic understanding of linguistics and second language acquisition:**

Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations:

In German, these goals are met in the following courses taken on campus and their equivalents abroad: GERM 3220 German Conversation and Composition I, 3320 German Conversation and Composition II, 4220 Phonetics, and Teaching 4060, Teaching World Languages: Theory and Practice.

13. **Lesson preparation and teaching performance:**

Proficiency assessed by successful performance in all German courses, particularly addressed by the reading assignments, activities, tests, papers, and oral performance evaluations Teaching 4060, Teaching World Languages: Theory and Practice.