Assessment Report

Yuba Community College District

YC - Foreign & Sign Language Program Recommendations

Year of Review: 2013-2014

Type of Review: Self-Study (4-year review)

Executive Summary (Include a list of team members): TBC

Program Description : Do students have access to curriculum-specific and/or program-specific support services? If so, describe this service(s). If not, explain why.

The Spanish Department has established a tutoring program through the Student Center for Excellence that, without a doubt, has contributed to student success. Students enrolled in Spanish courses receive free tutoring which allows them to review and practice the target language in a small group setting. Tutors are recommended by the Spanish instructors and trained by the staff at the center.

In addition to free tutoring services at Yuba College, students can also access a website, provided by Mosaicos (texbook for levels 1,2&3), where they can do online exercises. The website includes and audio component which allows students to enhance their listening skills and practice pronunciation.

Students can also enhance their Spanish skills in a social setting by attending a variety of activities coordinated by SOY (Spanish Organization of Yuba College) that was founded in Fall of 2009.

If services are available, how do they demonstrate an increase in student success?

Based on statistics at the Student Success Center, students who have participated in tutoring sessions, for a minimum of two hours per week, have made significant progress on tests scores. They also received extra credit for attending tutoring sessions, which increases their overall grade in the course.

How is current and previous program review data used to refine and improve program or department practices?

By analyzing current and previous program review data, the faculty notices that the foreign language curriculum is limited, since the college only offers three foreign languages: Spanish, Punjabi and Sign Languages. We must make an effort to offer more foreign languages than the ones currently offered. New courses need to be supported by effective advertisement and necessary amount of time to grow in order to achieve a consistent and healthy enrollment.

A Study Abroad program would be a real asset to our department and to Yuba College; therefore, it is important for the Board and administrators to support the creation a Study Abroad committee or project team which will set guidelines for instructors who would like to design courses that can be taught abroad during summer and winter intersession. This will allow students to experience a foreign language in an authentic setting.

Curriculum & SLO Assessment Summary : What has your program or department done to improve completion of degrees, certificates, or transfers? What are your future plans?

The Foreign Language department has expanded its program by offering courses at the new Yuba College Center in Sutter which allows students more opportunities to complete course requirements to transfer to a four year college or complete certain certificates and degrees.

Do you have any courses, certificates, or degrees that should be in-activated or expanded? If yes, please identify and justify your recommendations with data.

No.

Do all of your courses have current CORs? If not, what steps are you taking to ensure compliance?
Yes

If applicable, how are teaching methodologies in your program or department assessed?
Regular evaluations of full and part time faculty are completed. We analyze the results of the evaluations by looking at the feedback provided by the evaluator, executive summary and the student' survey and comments.
We have also noticed that delivery of the subject matter is facilitated by utilizing technology such as the internet and the ELMO.

If applicable, how are the results of the assessment used to support, improve, and/or expand your current teaching methodologies?

The foreign Language Department assures that a computer and Elmo are available in each classroom.

If your program or department uses a DE modality to support instruction, how are you evaluating the effectiveness of that instruction?

We have offered DE courses in Spanish and Punjabi in the past but not at the present.

If your department offers DE courses, what support services does it provide for DE students? What can be done to improve support services for these students?
Not applicable at the present.

How is your program or department applying sound principles of learning and teaching theory to its curriculum?

These elements have not been discussed in our department, but we will explore what other colleges are doing.

Which CSLOs (course student learning outcomes) and PLOs (Program learning outcomes) were assessed within the last year?

Communication and Global Awareness SLOs have been assessed in Spanish 1,2 and 20A; Punjabi 1, and Sign Language I.
We have not developed PLOs yet; therefore, we haven't done the assessment

For each of the above, how did the assessment data influence program, department and/or course improvement?
We will be assessing CSLOs towards the end of the semester to improve success rates. In some levels assessment will we include in the Final Exam.

Industry Trends and Program Data Analysis : How do program or department goals align with the education, diversity, demographic, and workforce needs of local communities?

Over time, The Foreign Language Program at Yuba College has been extremely successful in helping students succeed in achieving their educational goals. The program provides the students with a complete set of lower division courses. A good portion of students attending our courses is able to transfer to four-year institutions. We also serve students currently attending CSU Chico, Sacramento State and UC Davis. Many of the students attending our classes develop high proficiency in Spanish and make use of the language at their place of employment or in their travel abroad. Jobs in law enforcement and the medical field award a bilingual stipend to those employees who are able to passed a test developed by the employer.

Courses such as Spanish for native speakers of Spanish (Spanish 20A &20B), and Punjabi are offered taking into account the demographic needs of our local communities. Sign Language courses are aligned with the Disabled Student Services Program.

How is your program or department direction driven by empirical data?

Since the Fall of 2008, the Spanish Department has had two full time instructors: Dr. Fernando Canto Lugo and Professor José Ramón Muñoz. Maintaining high enrollment, updating curriculum, promoting the program, and providing tutoring for students. The tutoring program was established due to t high demand of students seeking assistance in the target langague.
In previous years, the Foreign Language department consisted of only one full time instructor (Dr. Canto Lugo). Professor Soto, who retired and replaced by professor Muñoz, taught 60% of his course load in the Spanish department. With two full time instructors, the number of sections and services increased. The Spanish program continued maintaining a healthy enrollment and with the addition of the Sutter Center, an adjunct instructor was added.

Future Goals and Program Direction:

How do program or department goals align with stated Yuba College goals?

The continuous success of the FL program is due to the maintenance of a consistent number of students who enroll in its courses. At present, the languages offered by the department are Spanish, Punjabi, and Sign Language. The FL program offers a full series of regular courses from the elementary to the advanced level. The sequence of courses allows students to develop a high proficiency in the target language. In addition, students are able to fulfill the Foreign Language Requirement for UC and State universities by taking two semesters of FL courses at Yuba College. For this reason, a number of students attending Sacramento State University, Chico State University and U.C Davis enroll in FL courses at Yuba College.

Course Content and Statistical Analysis:

How does the program support the YCCD District Vision Statement? Specifically, how does the program meets the needs of our students and communities?

The Yuba College Foreign Language is and academic program, which helps students, achieve their educational and vocational goals. This program supports the mission of our college in providing students with a rigorous comprehensive foreign language curriculum.

The foreign language curriculum is however limited, since the college only offers three foreign languages: Spanish, Punjabi and Sign Languages.

Courses

Spanish
The Yuba College Spanish Department offers a full complement of classes. The department offers three kinds of classes: a) classes designed to enable non-native speakers develop the language skills to achieve proficiency in Spanish: Spanish 1,2,3,4 and 10; b) Classes designed for native speakers or students of Spanish who speak the language fluently: Spanish 20A and 20B; c) literature courses designed for students who are majoring in Spanish or related humanities majors.

Punjabi

One section of Punjabi 1 and 2 have been offered in an alternating fashion, since last Program Review. One level in the Fall and the other in the Spring.

Sign Language
A sequence of Sign Language courses 1, 2 and 3 are offered to teach non-verbal communication.

Are you ready to submit your final program review?: Yes

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 1 - Request adjunct faculty if additional courses/sections are added.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 2 - Design additional courses such as Conversational Spanish, Medical Spanish, Spanish for Law Enforcement and Grammar and Composition for the advanced levels to fulfill requirements for AA/Transfer degrees.				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 3 - Design an AA Degree/Transfer Degree				

Goal	Recommendations	Plan of Action & Budgetary Impact / Tasks	Status	Feedback & Follow-Up
YC Goal 4 - Design online courses.				