

**FOR GRADUATE AND CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS: THIS TEMPLATE REFERS TO SAC STATE BACCALAUREATE LEARNING GOALS. PLEASE IGNORE THESE REFERENCES IN YOUR REPORT.**

## Question 1: Program Learning Outcomes

**Q1.1.** Which of the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) and Sac State Baccalaureate Learning Goals (BLGs) **did you assess in 2014-2015?** [Check all that apply]

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. Critical thinking  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 2. Information literacy   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3. Written communication  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 4. Oral communication   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 5. Quantitative literacy  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 6. Inquiry and analysis   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 7. Creative thinking  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 8. Reading  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 9. Team work  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 10. Problem solving   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 11. Civic knowledge and engagement  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 12. Intercultural knowledge and competency  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 13. Ethical reasoning   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 15. Global learning   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 16. Integrative and applied learning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 17. Overall competencies for GE Knowledge   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 18. Overall competencies in the major/discipline                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 19. Other, specify any PLOs that were assessed in 2014-2015 but not included above: |
|                                     | a.  |
|                                     | b.  |
|                                     | c.  |

**Q1.3.** Are your PLOs closely aligned with the mission of the university?

- ☒ 1. Yes  
☐ 2. No  
☐ 3. Don't know

**Q1.4.** Is your program externally accredited (other than through WASC)?

- ☐ 1. Yes  
☒ 2. No (Go to **Q1.5**)  
☐ 3. Don't know (Go to **Q1.5**)

**Q1.4.1.** If the answer to Q1.4 is yes, are your PLOs closely aligned with the mission/goals/outcomes of the accreditation agency?

- ☐ 1. Yes  
☐ 2. No  
☐ 3. Don't know

**Q1.5.** Did your program use the [Degree Qualification Profile](#) (DQP) to develop your PLO(s)?

- ☒ 1. Yes  
☐ 2. No, but I know what the DQP is  
☐ 3. No, I don't know what the DQP is.  
☐ 4. Don't know

**Q1.6.** Did you use action verbs to make each PLO measurable (See Attachment I)?  
Yes.

**Q1.2.** Please provide more detailed background information about **EACH PLO** you checked above and other information such as how your specific PLOs were **explicitly** linked to the Sac State BLGs:

The Spanish undergraduate program has five program learning outcomes adapted from the *Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century* (see: [http://www.actfl.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/public/StandardsforFLLexecsumm\\_rev.pdf](http://www.actfl.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/public/StandardsforFLLexecsumm_rev.pdf)), known as the “five C’s of foreign language education”: Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities. These learning outcomes have been explicitly linked to the Sac State BLGs as shown in Appendix I. The alignment, however, is still under revision.

This year, we have assessed program learning outcome 1.3 (**PLO 1.3**): Written Communication and 3.1 (**PLO 3.1**) Critical Thinking in Connections with Other Disciplines (historical and current social and political developments in the target culture). Spanish undergraduate students will demonstrate the ability to communicate their ideas and explore issues in writing by presenting a clear thesis and relevant supporting evidence in a clear and logical order, showing a mastery of the Spanish conventions, and consistently incorporating a range of sentence patterns to reveal syntactic fluency as well as an extensive range of vocabulary; they will demonstrate (**PLO 1.3**) **Written Communication**:

**1.3.1:** Clearly state an original thesis; provide relevant evidence that supports thesis, and provides details for a full understanding of the topic. Logical order of ideas and details with skillful use of transition words and phrases to show the relationship among ideas. Transitions are internally coherent. (**1.3.1: Thesis, Organization and Coherence**).

**1.3.2:** Shows mastery of conventions of construction of sentences in the target language and mastery of conventions of spelling, punctuation, and accent marks; it exhibits disciplinary conventions (e.g., APA or MLA style, sources). Consistently and effectively incorporates a range of varied sentence patterns to reveal syntactic fluency. (**1.3.2: Sentence/Fluency and Knowledge of conventions**)

**1.3.3:** Consistent use of extensive range of vocabulary; precise word choices; effective use of idioms, appropriate register. (**1.3.3: Vocabulary**).

Spanish undergraduate students will demonstrate the ability to explore issues, ideas, artifacts, and events before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion; they will demonstrate (**PLO 3.1**) Critical Thinking in Connections with Other Disciplines (historical and current social and political developments in the target culture):

**3.1.1.** Describes issues/problems comprehensively. (3.1.1. **Explanation of issues/ Content Development**).

**3.1.2.** Selects and uses information to investigate a point of view or conclusion. (3.1.2. **Sources and evidence**) - **THIS WAS NOT ASSESSED FOR THIS REPORT** (See answer to Q3.2A).

**Q1.2.1.** Do you have rubrics for your PLOs?

- |                                     |                             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 1. Yes, for all PLOs        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 2. Yes, but for some PLOs   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 3. No rubrics for PLOs      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | N/A, other (please specify) |

**IN QUESTIONS 2 THROUGH 5, REPORT IN DETAIL ON ONE PLO THAT YOU ASSESSED IN 2014-2015**

**Question 2: Standard of Performance for the selected PLO**

<p><b>Q2.1.</b> Specify one PLO here as an example to illustrate how you conducted assessment (be sure you checked the correct box for this PLO in Q1.1):          Written Communication and Critical Thinking in Connections with Other Disciplines (historical and current social and political developments in the target culture).</p>	<p><b>Q2.2.</b> Has the program developed or adopted <b>explicit</b> standards of performance for this PLO?</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. N/A         </div> </div>		
<p><b>Q2.3.</b> <u>Please provide the rubric(s)</u> and standard of performance that you have developed for this PLO here or in the appendix:          [Word limit: 300]          See rubric in Appendix II.</p> <p><b>Standards and Achievement Targets:</b> 70% of our undergraduate students should score <b>3 or above</b> in their senior year; 70 % of our first year graduate students should score <b>3 or above</b>, and get <b>4 or above</b> by the time of their graduation.</p>			
<p><b>Q2.4.</b> Please indicate the category in which the selected PLO falls into.</p> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;">X</div> <div>1. Critical thinking</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>2. Information literacy</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;">X</div> <div>3. Written communication</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>4. Oral communication</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>5. Quantitative literacy</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>6. Inquiry and analysis</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>7. Creative thinking</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>8. Reading</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>9. Team work</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>10. Problem solving</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>11. Civic knowledge and engagement</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>12. Intercultural knowledge and competency</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>13. Ethical reasoning</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>15. Global learning</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>16. Integrative and applied learning</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>17. Overall competencies for GE Knowledge</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>18. Overall competencies in the major/discipline</div> </div> <div style="display: flex;"> <div style="width: 30px; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div>19. Other:</div> </div>			
<p>Please indicate where you have published the PLO, the standard of performance, and the rubric that measures the PLO:</p>	<b>Q2.5</b>	<b>Q2.6</b>	<b>Q2.7</b>
	(1) PLO	(2) Standards of Performance	(3) Rubrics
1. In <b>SOME</b> course syllabi/assignments in the program that address the PLO	X		X
2. In <b>ALL</b> course syllabi/assignments in the program that address the PLO			
3. In the student handbook/advising handbook			
4. In the university catalogue			
5. On the academic unit website or in newsletters			
6. In the assessment or program review reports, plans, resources or activities	X	X	X
7. In new course proposal forms in the department/college/university			

8. In the department/college/university's strategic plans and other planning documents			
9. In the department/college/university's budget plans and other resource allocation documents			
10. Other, specify:			

### Question 3: Data Collection Methods and Evaluation of Data Quality for the Selected PLO

<p><b>Q3.1.</b> Was assessment data/evidence <b>collected</b> for the selected PLO in 2014-2015?</p> <div style="display: flex; margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;">X</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">1. Yes</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">2. No (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">3. Don't know (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">4. N/A (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</div> </div>	<p><b>Q3.2.</b> If yes, was the data <b>scored/evaluated</b> for this PLO in 2014-2015?</p> <div style="display: flex; margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;">X</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">1. Yes</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">2. No (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">3. Don't know (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; margin-left: 20px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px; margin-right: 5px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <div style="margin-bottom: 5px;">4. N/A (Skip to <b>Q6</b>)</div> </div>
<p><b>Q3.1A.</b> How many assessment tools/methods/measures <b>in total</b> did you use to assess this PLO?</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">2</p>	<p><b>Q3.2A</b> Please describe how you collected the assessment data for the selected PLO. For example, in what course(s) or by what means were data collected (see Attachment II)? [Word limit: 300]</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Assessment of the learning outcome was carried out during the Fall 2014 by evaluating one composition submitted by 11 of the students enrolled in the Civilization and Culture of Spain, Spanish 152; this course was chosen for direct assessment of student writing skills because it is a course that is required of all Spanish majors.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">Two faculty members, each of whom read the 11 papers, evaluated the composition. To determine the final scores, the faculty came together to discuss the similarities and differences of scores until a consensus was reached of exact or adjacent agreement (within one score point) between raters.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">The scores obtained by the two raters were submitted to a paired T-Test to determine inter-rater reliability. Although the results of the overall scores (<math>p=0.021995237</math>) showed significant difference between the raters, the scores for each of the criteria reached an exact or adjacent agreement (within one score point) between raters, as mentioned earlier, which shows consensus.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">The rubric was used to get a baseline assessment of students' writing skills in Spanish; the assignment consisted of a short (2-page) analytical/expository essay, and students were not required to provide additional sources other than the book.</p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">This report made it evident that there has to be more emphasis in the development of writing and critical</p>

		thinking skills throughout the program.
<p align="center"><b>Q3A: Direct Measures (key assignments, projects, portfolios)</b></p>		
<p><b>Q3.3.</b> Were direct measures [key assignments, projects, portfolios, etc.] used to assess this PLO?</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No (Go to <b>Q3.7</b>)  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know (Go to <b>Q3.7</b>)         </p>		<p><b>Q3.3.1.</b> Which of the following direct measures were used? [Check all that apply]</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Capstone projects (including theses, senior theses), courses, or experiences  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Key assignments from required classes in the program  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Key assignments from elective classes  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Classroom based performance assessments such as simulations, comprehensive exams, critiques  <input type="checkbox"/> 5. External performance assessments such as internship or other community based projects  <input type="checkbox"/> 6. E-Portfolios  <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Other portfolios  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8. Other measure. Specify:            Writing assessment in Spanish to establish baseline.         </p>
<p><b>Q3.3.2.</b> Please attach the direct measure you used to collect data.</p> <p align="center">Write a short analytical/expository essays in Spanish no more than 2 pages about a political topic from the XX or XXI century.</p>		
<p><b>Q3.4.</b> How was the data evaluated? [Select only one]</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> 1. <b>No</b> rubric is used to interpret the evidence (Go to <b>Q3.5</b>)  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Used rubric developed/modified by the faculty who teaches the class  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. Used rubric developed/modified by a group of faculty  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Used rubric pilot-tested and refined by a group of faculty  <input type="checkbox"/> 5. The VALUE rubric(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Modified VALUE rubric(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Used other means. Specify:         </p>		
<p><b>Q3.4.1.</b> Was the direct measure (e.g. assignment, thesis, etc.) aligned directly and explicitly with the PLO?</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. N/A         </p>	<p><b>Q3.4.2.</b> Was the direct measure (e.g. assignment, thesis, etc.) aligned directly and explicitly with the rubric?</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. N/A         </p>	<p><b>Q3.4.3.</b> Was the rubric aligned directly and explicitly with the PLO?</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. N/A         </p>
<p><b>Q3.5.</b> How many faculty members participated in planning the assessment data collection of the selected PLO?</p> <p align="center">2</p>		<p><b>Q3.5.1.</b> If the data was evaluated by multiple scorers, was there a norming process (a procedure to make sure everyone was scoring similarly)?</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know         </p>

<p><b>Q3.6.</b> How did you <b>select</b> the sample of student work [papers, projects, portfolios, etc.]?</p> <p>Random selection based on scores, trying to get at least 5 Spanish heritage speakers and 5 Non-native speakers of Spanish.</p>	<p><b>Q3.6.1.</b> How did you <b>decide</b> how many samples of student work to review?</p> <p>We decided to select samples from one third (more or less) of the students taking the class.</p>
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<p><b>Q3.6.2.</b> How many students were in the class or program?</p> <p>34</p>	<p><b>Q3.6.3.</b> How many samples of student work did you evaluate?</p> <p>11</p>	<p><b>Q3.6.4.</b> Was the sample size of student work for the direct measure adequate?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know</p>
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***Q3B: Indirect Measures (surveys, focus groups, interviews, etc.)***

<p><b>Q3.7.</b> Were indirect measures used to assess the PLO?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No (Skip to <b>Q3.8</b>)  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know</p>	<p><b>Q3.7.1.</b> Which of the following indirect measures were used? <b>[Check all that apply]</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. National student surveys (e.g., NSSE)  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. University conducted student surveys (e.g. OIR)  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. College/Department/program student surveys  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Alumni surveys, focus groups, or interviews  <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Employer surveys, focus groups, or interviews  <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Advisory board surveys, focus groups, or interviews  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7. Other, specify: Analysis of transcripts</p>
<p><b>Q3.7.2</b> If surveys were used, how was the sample size decided?</p>	
<p><b>Q3.7.3.</b> If surveys were used, briefly specify how you selected your sample.</p>	<p><b>Q3.7.4.</b> If surveys were used, what was the response rate?</p>

***Q3C: Other Measures (external benchmarking, licensing exams, standardized tests, etc.)***

<p><b>Q3.8.</b> Were external benchmarking data such as licensing exams or standardized tests used to assess the PLO?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. No (Go to <b>Q3.8.2</b>)  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know</p>	<p><b>Q3.8.1.</b> Which of the following measures were used?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. National disciplinary exams or state/professional licensure exams  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. General knowledge and skills measures (e.g., CLA, CAAP, ETS PP, etc.)  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Other standardized knowledge and skill exams (e.g., ETS, GRE, etc.)  <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other, specify:</p>
<p><b>Q3.8.2.</b> Were other measures used to assess the PLO?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> 2. No (Go to <b>Q3.9</b>)  <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Don't know (Go to <b>Q3.9</b>)</p>	<p><b>Q3.8.3.</b> If other measures were used, please specify:</p> <p>In order to promote critical thinking, students were given a "Discussion Self-Audit" (See Appendix III) handout to help them with their reflections about the class discussions and their learning from the discussions. The purpose of this self-audit was to examine whether the discussions were helping students to take into account the complexities of an issue and to identify their own</p>

and others' assumptions when presenting a position. This measure was piloted in this class in fall 2014, but the data was not analyzed for this report. For future assessment reports, we expect to continue using the self-audit as a preparatory activity for the assessment of critical thinking skills (e.g., examine the positive and negative effects of globalization; take the opposite position to what you favor and find arguments to defend that position).

### Q3D: Alignment and Quality

**Q3.9.** Did the data, including the direct measures, from all the different assessment tools/measures/methods directly align with the PLO?

- ☒ 1. Yes  
☐ 2. No  
☐ 3. Don't know

**Q3.9.1.** Were **ALL** the assessment tools/measures/methods that were used good measures for the PLO?

- ☒ 1. Yes  
☐ 2. No  
☐ 3. Don't know

## Question 4: Data, Findings and Conclusions

**Q4.1.** Please provide simple tables and/or graphs to summarize the assessment data, findings, and conclusions: (see Attachment III) **[Word limit: 600 for selected PLO]**

Data for the written and critical thinking ability of our undergraduate graduate students are presented in Table 1.

Table I: The Results for Written Communication and Critical Thinking

Levels Criteria	Accomplished (5)	4.75- 4.5	Competent (4.25-4)	3.75- 3.5	Good (3.25-3)	2.75- 2.5	Developing (2.25-2)	1.5	Bench mark (1)	Total (N=11)
1.3.1: Thesis/Organizat ion/Coherence		1 9%	2 18%	3 27%	2 18%	1 9%	2 18%			3.30 (100%, N=11)
1.3.2: Sentence fluency/ Conventions	1 9%		1 9%	2 18%	3 27%	2 18%	1 9%	1 9%		3.11 (100%, N=11)
1.3.3: Vocabulary	1 9%	1 9%	3 27%	1 9%		3 27%	2 18%			3.36 (100%, N=11)
3.1.1: Explanation of Issues/Content		3 27%	2 18%	1 9%	3 27%	1 9%	1 9%			3.50 (100%, N=11)

Based on the standards and criteria from 1.3.1 to 1.3.3 and 3.1.1 in the written communication and critical thinking rubric in Appendix II, the majority of the students achieved the expected learning outcomes, although, in general, students' performance did not meet expectations/standards in all criteria. Remember that it is expected that 70% of our undergraduate students should score **3 or above** in their senior year. Although the essays were somewhat organized, there was an inconsistency use of basic transition words or phrases and the details were too general or was not clear how they connected to the main idea (1.3.1). They also show an inconsistency use of basic transition words or phrases. The majority (72.7%), however, score 3 or above and the average score in this area (1.3.1, Thesis/Organization and Coherence) was 3.30, which is above our goal.

Students did not meet the standards of performance of Sentence Fluency and Conventions of the Language (goal 1.3.2). Although the average was 3.11 (above the goal of 3), only 63.6% of our students scored 3 or above (the standard of performance being 70%) and were able to include a variety of sentence patterns with some success. It was observed, however, that many students still wrote many one-sentence paragraphs and fragments. Moreover, some parts of their papers were difficult to read due to frequent errors in the conventions of Spanish (e.g., word order, agreement, tense, number, accent marks.)

For goal 1.3.3 (Vocabulary) only 54.5% of students were able to use an adequate range of vocabulary. And, although the average score for this area was 3.36 (above our goal of 3), there were frequent errors of word/idiom form that made it difficult to understand

the meaning in some areas.

Despite the difficulties observed in the criteria for written communication, the majority of students (81.8%) were able to state or describe the issue/problem to be considered (goal 3.1.1), although with some omissions of relevant information that impeded full understanding. The average score was 3.50, which is above the goal of 3.

In general, the data indicate that the majority of students in the B.A. program effectively present ideas in Spanish in a clear and logical order in writing. However, although most students are obtaining a good or competent score (3 or above) in each category, an analysis of the writing samples indicate that some students still struggle with writing assignments. This is particular true for some students who had only taken LD courses before enrolling in this course.

In previous reports, the main difficulty observed has been with 1.3.2, in particular with the formal conventions of the language (accents, spelling, and grammar). The writing sampled for this report showed some difficulties in this area, but not as much as expected, probably because students prepared this assignment at home and, therefore, had the opportunity of using dictionaries and/or spelling-devices to check for spelling and grammar usage. This report, however, showed more difficulties vocabulary (1.3.3) than in previous years. Five (45%) of the 11 students scored below 3 (the performance target) in this objective. An analysis of transcripts indicates that one of these students—a non-native speaker of Spanish—had taken only three LD courses (1B, 2A and 2B and received B-, B+ and B+, respectively) in Spanish before this class. These observations indicate this student had not enough opportunities to develop writing skills before attempting the kind of advanced coursework expected of students in this Culture and Civilization course (SPAN 152). For comparison purposes, another student who was also a non-native speaker of Spanish, had also taken only two LD courses (2A and 2B) before enrolling in SPAN 152, but she has received A's in both courses, which suggests a higher Spanish proficiency at the onset of UD coursework in Spanish.

**ii) Students' Transcripts.** In order to form a clearer picture of the development of students' writing skills with respect to our program, the students' progress in the program was examined. The data collected in this course were more of a formative assessment for all the students assessed since most of them have taken half or less of the 12 upper division (UD) courses required in Spanish program before Fall 2014 (the semester of data collection).

In general, this report shows a lower proficiency in Spanish among students assessed than what previous reports have indicated. Transcript analysis show that only three (27%) of the 11 students assessed this year have taken at least six UD classes; moreover, three (27%) of the students have only taken lower division (LD) coursework before the semester of data collection.

As mentioned in previous reports, a better indicator of whether the program helps to enhance students' writing competence is to examine the number and level of Spanish courses taken prior to and during the program. Moreover, advising is crucial in helping students to achieve the written communication learning goals of the program provided they follow a proper sequencing of courses.



**Q4.2.** Are students doing well and meeting program standard? If not, how will the program work to improve student performance of the selected PLO?

“Second language instruction should both teach the mechanics of writing in the target language and stress that writing builds critical thinking skills and ultimately produces more proficient writers in both native and second language.” (Terrio, 1986) More recently, others (Bean, 2011; Simpson and Courtney, 2007) have also examined the interrelationship between writing and critical thinking skills. Bean’s (2011) work suggests that this relationship is not exclusive to second/foreign languages classrooms because as writers struggle to verbalize the ideas they want to communicate, thinking occurs. Thus, our assessment plans continue to include assessment of writing together with critical thinking.

To that effect, we are trying to refine one single rubric that can assess both skills. If students continue to have difficulties writing, as indicated in this and previous assessment reports, it is assumed that the development of their critical skills will lag behind. Therefore, we have started to provide students with opportunities to develop their critical thinking skills through the development of their writing skills. We have also designed activities that help students to improve their performance of these skills in a developmental fashion. As suggested by our colleagues in the Sociology department, it is important to teach our students how to think critically. Moreover, we need to explain to students what critical thinking is and how to approach it in order to analyze the different perspectives on a particular issue. Also, students need to be aware of their assumptions and others’ assumptions so as to reflect on new perspectives on a topic or an expansion to their original assumption based on class discussions. They also need to learn to support their arguments with evidence.

**Q4.3.** For **selected** PLO, the student performance:

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 1. <b>Exceeded</b> expectation/standard          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 2. <b>Met</b> expectation/standard               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 3. <b>Partially</b> met expectation/standard     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 4. <b>Did not meet</b> expectation/standard      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 5. No expectation or standard has been specified |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 6. Don’t know                                    |

### Question 5: Use of Assessment Data (Closing the Loop)

**Q5.1.** As a result of the **assessment effort in 2014-2015** and based on the prior feedback from OAPA, do you anticipate making any changes for your program (e.g., course structure, course content, or modification of PLOs)?

- |                                     |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. Yes                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 2. No (Go to <b>Q6</b> )         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 3. Don’t know (Go to <b>Q6</b> ) |

**Q5.1.2.** Do you have a plan to assess the impact of the changes that you anticipate making?

- |                                     |               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1. Yes        |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 2. No         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 3. Don’t know |

**Q5.1.1.** Please describe what changes you plan to make in your program as a result of your assessment of this PLO. Include a description of how you plan to assess the impact of these changes. **[Word limit: 300 words]**

To improve students’ writing and critical thinking skills, the chair of the assessment committee will address colleagues in the Spanish area for possible ways to include the explicit teaching of critical thinking and writing skills in selected coursework in the program.

As suggested by colleagues in the Sociology department, this would include helping students to define issues/problems, to provide supporting evidence through sources or numerical data, to explore new perspectives on a topic or an expansion to students’ original assumption on a topic based on class discussions.

Other activities would include lectures to explicitly discuss what critical thinking is, and to continue to design activities to give students opportunities to develop their critical

	<p>thinking skill through writing and groups discussions.</p> <p>For that purpose, as mentioned earlier, we have been working on the development of one single rubric that can assess both the writing and critical thinking skills.</p> <p>Moreover, it has been mentioned before that the required sequence of grammar/writing courses (Spanish 103--Advanced Grammar--before Spanish 106--Advanced Composition) is effective in helping students to acquire written language skills. However, since some students are not able to take these courses to improve their knowledge of grammar and their writing skills before attempting more advanced coursework, the writing component has been strengthened in Spanish 103. This course now includes a re-write of their compositions after reviewing the feedback provided by the instructor and a final writing project.</p> <p>Furthermore, for years now, Spanish 47 (Introduction to Composition and Grammar Review) has been proposed as a pre-requisite for Spanish 103. The sequence of courses (Spanish 47, 103 and 106) will strengthen the program at the second and third years and will provide students with more opportunities for the development of writing and critical thinking skills before they advance to senior courses. However, this change has not taken place yet. A substantive change such as this requirement needs to be evaluated carefully by the faculty in order to avoid increasing the units required to complete the B.A. program in Spanish. Moreover, the considerable reduction in workforce in the Spanish area (due to retirements in the last four years) has made it difficult to offer more sections of the required courses that count towards the B. A. in Spanish. It is hoped that in the future, assessment data can be used to support the offerings of more sections of SPAN 47, 103 and 106 in order to helped students achieved the writing and critical thinking learning goals before they attempt more advanced coursework.</p>
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**Q5.2. How have the assessment data from last year (2013 - 2014) been used so far? [Check all that apply]**

	(1) Very Much	(2) Quite a Bit	(3) Some	(4) Not at all	(8) N/A
1. Improving specific courses	X				
2. Modifying curriculum			X		
3. Improving advising and mentoring	X				
4. Revising learning outcomes/goals		X			
5. Revising rubrics and/or expectations	X				

6. Developing/updating assessment plan		X			
7. Annual assessment reports	X				
8. Program review	X				
9. Prospective student and family information					X
10. Alumni communication					X
11. WASC accreditation (regional accreditation)		X			
12. Program accreditation					X
13. External accountability reporting requirement					X
14. Trustee/Governing Board deliberations					X
15. Strategic planning				X	
16. Institutional benchmarking				X	
17. Academic policy development or modification				X	
18. Institutional Improvement				X	
19. Resource allocation and budgeting				X	
20. New faculty hiring			X		
21. Professional development for faculty and staff		X			
22. Recruitment of new students			X		
23. Other Specify:					
<p><b>Q5.2.1.</b> Please provide a detailed example of how you used the assessment data above.</p> <p>We have used the assessment data to promote participation in the Faculty Learning Community workshops for faculty to learn about the AACU rubrics. We have developed a modified version of the AACU rubrics that we have used in some classes; we hope to start using these rubrics in all the core courses in the program. Assessment data has also helped us in the refinement of the program curriculum map.</p> <p>Also, the faculty in the Department of Foreign Languages has revised our rubrics and assessment plan to align our assessment efforts with the university's. One of the priorities has been to incorporate criteria from the VALUE rubrics into our own rubrics. Another example is the improving of advising and mentoring to help students choose a more curricular path to graduation in order to help them achieve the program learning goals.</p>					
<b>Additional Assessment Activities</b>					
<p><b>Q6.</b> Many academic units have collected assessment data on aspects of a program that are not related to PLOs (i.e., impacts of an advising center, etc.). If your program/academic unit has collected data on the program elements, please briefly report your results here. <b>[Word limit: 300]</b></p>					

**Q7. What PLO(s) do you plan to assess next year?**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Critical thinking
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Information literacy
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Written communication
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Oral communication
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Quantitative literacy
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Inquiry and analysis
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Creative thinking
<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Reading
<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Team work
<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Problem solving
<input type="checkbox"/>	11. Civic knowledge and engagement
<input type="checkbox"/>	12. Intercultural knowledge and competency
<input type="checkbox"/>	13. Ethical reasoning
<input type="checkbox"/>	14. Foundations and skills for lifelong learning
<input type="checkbox"/>	15. Global learning
<input type="checkbox"/>	16. Integrative and applied learning
<input type="checkbox"/>	17. Overall competencies for GE Knowledge
<input type="checkbox"/>	18. Overall competencies in the major/discipline
<input type="checkbox"/>	19. Other, specify any PLOs that were assessed in 2014-2015 but not included above:
	a.
	b.
	c.

**Q8. Have you attached any appendices? If yes, please list them all here:**

Appendix I. Foreign Language Department Learning Goals and Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Appendix II. Rubric PLO 1.3: Written Communication and PLO 3.1 Critical Thinking in Connection with other disciplines

Appendix III. My Discussion-Participation Rubric and Discussion Self-Audit

## Program Information

**P1. Program/Concentration Name(s):**  
BA in Spanish

**P1.1. Report Authors:**  
María Mayberry

**P3. Academic unit: Department, Program, or College:**  
Department of Foreign Languages

**P5. Fall 2014 enrollment for Academic unit** (*See [Department Fact Book 2014](#) by the Office of Institutional Research for fall 2014 enrollment:* 101 (The report does not show Fall 2014; the latest semester it shows is Fall 2013))

**P2. Program Director:**

**P2.1. Department Chair:**  
Bernice Bass de Martinez

**P4. College:**  
Arts and Letters

**P6. Program Type: [Select only one]**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Undergraduate baccalaureate major
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Credential
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Master's degree
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Doctorate (Ph.D./Ed.d)

										5. Other. Please specify:		
<b>Undergraduate Degree Program(s):</b> <b>P7.</b> Number of undergraduate degree programs the academic unit has: 8  <b>P7.1.</b> List all the name(s): B.A.French; B.A.Spanish; minor in Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish  <b>P7.2.</b> How many concentrations appear on the diploma for this undergraduate program? 0					<b>Master Degree Program(s):</b> <b>P8.</b> Number of Master's degree programs the academic unit has: 1  <b>P8.1.</b> List all the name(s): MA in Spanish  <b>P8.2.</b> How many concentrations appear on the diploma for this master program? 0							
<b>Credential Program(s):</b> <b>P9.</b> Number of credential programs the academic unit has: 0  <b>P9.1.</b> List all the names:					<b>Doctorate Program(s)</b> <b>P10.</b> Number of doctorate degree programs the academic unit has: 0  <b>P10.1.</b> List all the name(s):							
When was your assessment plan?	1. Before 2007-08	2. 2007-08	3. 2008-09	4. 2009-10	5. 2010-11	6. 2011-12	7. 2012-13	8. 2013-14	9. 2014-15	10. No formal plan		
P11. Developed							X					
P12. Last updated								X				
								1. Yes	2. No	3. Don't Know		
P13. Have you developed a curriculum map for this program?								X				
P14. Has the program indicated explicitly where the assessment of student learning occurs in the curriculum?									X			
P15. Does the program have any capstone class?									X			
P16. Does the program have ANY capstone project?									X			

### Appendix I: Foreign Language Department Learning Goals and Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Program Goals (5 C's)	Alignment with BLG21/CSUS	Learning Objectives/Outcomes
1. Communicate in languages other than English	Oral Communication VALUE Rubric	1.1 Students can engage in oral communications as evidenced by their ability to present an oral report on a given topic under testing conditions.
	Oral Communication VALUE Rubric	1.2 Students engage in conversations in the target language in a variety of topics under testing conditions.
	Written Communication VALUE Rubric	1.3 Students can communicate in written language as evidenced by their ability to write a report on a given topic
2. Gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures	Intercultural Knowledge and competence (12 <sup>th</sup> VALUE Rubric)	2.1 Students demonstrate knowledge of traditions and institutions of the target culture, such as marriage, work, social stratification
		2.2 Students identify and/or discuss artistic expressions of the target culture, such as paintings, music, literature, architecture
		2.3 Students demonstrate knowledge of everyday or "popular" culture, such as eating, shopping, travel, lodging
3. Develop <b>critical thinking skills</b> by connection with other disciplines	Critical Thinking (VALUE Rubric) and	3.1 Students demonstrate basic knowledge of the history and current social and political developments in the target culture
	Integrative and Applied Learning (VALUE Rubric)	3.2 Students identify and/or discuss literary and intellectual developments in the target culture
4. Develop <b>critical thinking skills</b> and <b>information literacy</b> through insight into the nature of language and culture	Information Literacy (VALUE Rubric)	4.1 Students describe and/ or discuss linguistic similarities and differences between the target language and their own
	Critical Thinking (VALUE Rubric)	4.2 Students identify, evaluate and analyze cultural similarities and differences between the target culture and their own
5. Participate in multilingual communities and acquire information	Global Learning (VALUE Rubric)	5.1 Students will gain exposure to use the target language beyond the school setting by participating in out of school activities/study-abroad programs using the target language
		5.2 Students find information regarding the target culture using sources in the target language

## Appendix II: Rubric PLO 1.3: Written Communication and PLO 3.1 Critical Thinking in Connection with other disciplines

Criterion	Accomplished 5	Competent 4	Good 3	Developing 2	Beginning 1
<b>1.3.1.Thesis, Organization, and Coherence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thesis is original, clear and closely matches writing assignment; relevant evidence supports thesis.</li> <li>• Ideas &amp; details are presented in logical order; and paper has a clear beginning, middle &amp; ending; it is full of details; supports what is important about the topic.</li> <li>• Skillful use of transition words and phrases to show the relationships among ideas. Transitions are internally coherent.</li> <li>• Paper is complete.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Although not original, thesis is fairly clear and matches writing task; evidence supports all statements.</li> <li>• Ideas/details are mostly presented in logical order but not fully developed.</li> <li>• Some irrelevant ideas/paragraphs included.</li> <li>• Attempt to use some transitions words and phrases to show the relationships among ideas. Transitions are somewhat fluid.</li> <li>• Paper seems complete.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thesis is somewhat clear but evidence sometimes is inadequate to support all statements.</li> <li>• Paper is somewhat organized but seems unfinished. Details are general and not specific. Topic may be too big.</li> <li>• Unclear how some details are connected to main idea or story.</li> <li>• Inconsistent use of basic transition words or phrases.</li> <li>• Some details are not in the right spot.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thesis is ambiguous, very vague or ignores the purpose of assignment; evidence loosely related to writing task.</li> <li>• Little organization to the paper.</li> <li>• Details are not clear and/or not clearly connected; writing does not connect to main idea or story.</li> <li>• Little attempt to use transition words and phrases.</li> <li>• Ending is missing or does not connect to the story or main idea.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thesis is missing and/or absence of relevant evidence and details.</li> <li>• No organization to the paper; ideas seem disconnected and do not fit with main idea or story.</li> <li>• Lack of transition words/phrases. There is no beginning or end to the paper. (12 or below)</li> </ul>
<b>1.3.2. Sentence/fluency and Knowledge of Conventions (control of syntax and mechanics)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistently and effectively incorporates a range of varied sentence patterns to reveal syntactic fluency. Sentences are complete.</li> <li>• Use of language skillfully communicates meaning to readers; writing is virtually error-free and shows mastery of conventions of construction of sentences (word order, agreement, tense, number, articles, pronouns, prepositions) and spelling, punctuation, and accent marks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectively incorporates a range of sentence patterns to reveal syntactic fluency with effective but simple constructions.</li> <li>• Most sentences are complete, but there are a few fragments.</li> <li>• Use of straightforward language generally conveys meaning to readers with few errors. <i>Meaning seldom obscured</i></li> <li>• Paper flows smoothly, but has some rough spots due to occasional errors in word order, agreement, tense, number, articles, pronouns, prepositions, spelling, punctuation, accent marks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes a range of varied sentence patterns, with some success.</li> <li>• Many one-sentence paragraphs and many fragments.</li> <li>• Use of language generally conveys meaning to readers; <i>meaning is obscured in some areas</i> because of errors.</li> <li>• Some parts of the paper are difficult to read due to frequent errors in word order, agreement, tense, number, articles, pronouns, prepositions, spelling, punctuation, accent marks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempt to include different sentence patterns with uneven success.</li> <li>• Choppy/awkward sentences and frequent use of fragments make paper difficult to read.</li> <li>• Use of language sometimes <i>obscures or confused meaning</i> because of errors.</li> <li>• Paper does not flow smoothly due to major weaknesses in sentence construction (word order, agreement, tense, number, articles, pronouns, prepositions), spelling, accent marks, punctuation that cause significant distraction; reads like a translation from English.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paper is full of fragments.</li> <li>• Use of language <i>obscures meaning</i> because of errors.</li> <li>• Paper is difficult to read due to no mastery of sentence construction, spelling, punctuation, accent marks; <i>meaning is lost</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>1.3.3. Vocabulary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive and sophisticated range of vocabulary.</li> <li>• Precise word choices; effective use of idioms, appropriate register.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate range of vocabulary.</li> <li>• Occasional errors of word/idiom form, choice, and usage, <i>but meaning is not obscured</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate range of vocabulary.</li> <li>• Word choices get the message across but frequent errors of word/idiom form, choice, <i>obscured meaning in some areas</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocabulary is not all translation.</li> <li>• Word choices make the writing unclear to the reader.</li> <li>• <i>Word choices confuse the meaning</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocabulary is essentially translation from English; invented words.</li> <li>• Confusing word choices.</li> <li>• <i>Meaning is unclear</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>3. 1.1 Explanation of issues/ Content Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue/problem to be considered is stated clearly and described comprehensively, delivering all relevant information necessary for full understanding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue/problem to be considered is stated, described, and clarified so that understanding is not seriously impeded by omissions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue/problem to be considered is stated but described leaves some terms undefined, ambiguities unexplored, and boundaries undetermined, and/or backgrounds unknown.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue/problem to be considered is stated without clarification or description</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not state issue/problem.</li> </ul>
<b>3.1.2. Sources and evidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takes information from sources with enough interpretation/evaluation to develop a comprehensive analysis or synthesis.</li> <li>• Viewpoints of experts are questioned thoroughly.</li> <li>• Skillful use of style and of high-quality, credible, and relevant sources to develop ideas that are appropriate for discipline and genre.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takes information from sources with enough interpretation/evaluation to develop a coherent analysis or synthesis.</li> <li>• Viewpoints of experts are subject to questioning.</li> <li>• Consistent use of style and of credible and relevant sources to support ideas that are appropriate for discipline and genre.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takes information from sources with some interpretation/evaluation to develop a coherent analysis or synthesis.</li> <li>• Although discerning fact from opinion, viewpoints of experts are not consistently questioned.</li> <li>• An attempt to use style and credible and/or relevant sources as evidence to support ideas that are appropriate for discipline and genre. (15-16)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takes information from sources with some interpretation/evaluation, but not enough to develop a coherent analysis or synthesis.</li> <li>• Viewpoints of experts are taken as mostly fact, with little questioning.</li> <li>• Rare use of style and sources as evidence to support ideas that are appropriate for discipline and genre.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takes information from sources without any interpretation/evaluation.</li> <li>• Viewpoints of experts are taken as fact, without question.</li> <li>• Does not use style or sources as evidence to support ideas that are appropriate for discipline and genre.</li> </ul>
<b>Totals</b>	25	20	15	10	5

mm-9-7-2014

### Appendix III. My Discussion-Participation Rubric and Discussion Self-Audit:

SPAN 152. Civilization and Culture of Spain.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Prof. María Mayberry

Week# \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

During the first 4 weeks of the semester, your participation was graded based on your written answers to the discussion questions.

Starting with week 5, your participation will be graded based on:

1. the "My Discussion-Participation Rubric";
2. your completion of the "Discussion Self-Audit";
3. your participation in class-discussions (e.g., when you volunteer to answer and participate in class discussions).

**IMPORTANT:** Keep all of your rubrics and self-audits in order.

I will collect the first Rubric and Self-Audit on Week 6 (based on week 5's discussion).

I will collect the first Rubric and Self-Audit on Week 9 (based on week 8's online discussion).

**Summary.** You will need to prepare a summary of all your rubrics and self-audits. In the summary identify patterns of your assumptions and the assumptions of other students; similarities, contradictions, and discrepancies of your assumptions with those of other students; include any surprises.

**Due at the beginning of last day of class:** A portfolio with all your rubrics, self-audits, and the summary. is summary (not the individual weekly entries) and the rubrics and self-audits for weeks 6 and 9 will be part of your grade for participation and discussion.



## Discussion Self-Audit

**Instructions:** Please write down anything that occurs to you about your contributions to the discussions we have had in class this week and anything you may have learned from the discussions. The following questions may be helpful to you. You do not need to answer every one of them. There are here to help you with your reflections about the discussions and your learning from them.

**Assumption** = a statement accepted as true without proof. (The American Heritage Dictionary. 1983. 2nd College Edition)

1. List the assumptions that you held about the topic of the discussion this week that were uncovered or clarified for you.
2. Of these assumptions, which did you feel were accurate and valid? Try to write down what was said about the discussions that confirmed the accuracy of your assumptions.
3. Of these assumptions, which did you feel were more challenged by the discussion? Try to write down what was said about the discussions that challenged the accuracy of your assumptions.
4. What different perspectives on the topics were suggested for you by our discussions?
5. What is the most important learning you have taken from this week's discussions?
6. What is the most pressing question you are left with about the topic as a result of this week's discussion?
7. Re-write your answer to one of the questions discussed this week's that reflect a new perspective on the topic or an expansion to your original assumption (answer) on the topic based on class discussions. (Attach original response)

Adapted from following source: Brookfield, S. and S. Preskill. 2005. Discussion as a Way of Teaching: Tools and Techniques for Democratic Classrooms. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

## MY Rubric for Classroom Discussions and Participation

Criteria	Exemplary	Accomplished	Good	Developing
<b>Level of Engagement and active participation</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> I <b>proactively and regularly</b> contribute to class discussions <input type="checkbox"/> I initiate discussion on issues related to class topic <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>actively</b> engage others in class discussions by inviting their comments (4)	<input type="checkbox"/> I <b>proactively</b> contribute to class discussions <input type="checkbox"/> I often ask questions and respond to direct questions <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>often</b> engage others in class discussions by inviting their comments (3)	<input type="checkbox"/> I <b>occasionally</b> contribute to class discussion. <input type="checkbox"/> I seldom volunteer but respond to direct questions <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>sometimes</b> engage others in class discussions (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not contribute <b>enough</b> to class discussions <input type="checkbox"/> I do not respond to direct questions <input type="checkbox"/> I rarely invite comments/opinions from other students (1)
<b>Listening skills</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> I listen to contributions of others <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>respond and expand</b> on the contributions of other students (4)	<input type="checkbox"/> I listen to contributions of others <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>appropriately respond</b> to contributions of other students (3)	<input type="checkbox"/> I listen to contributions of others <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>do not always respond to contributions</b> of other students (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> I listen to contributions of others <input type="checkbox"/> I <b>do not respond</b> to contributions of other students (1)
<b>Relevance of Contribution to topic under discussion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> My contributions are relevant and promote deeper analysis of topic (e.g., I ask questions to further discussion) (4)	<input type="checkbox"/> My contributions are relevant (3)	<input type="checkbox"/> My contributions sometimes are off-topic (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not contribute to class discussions. (1)
<b>Preparedness</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> I <b>am always prepared</b> for class with assignments and required materials (4)	<input type="checkbox"/> I <b>am usually prepared</b> with assignments and required materials (3)	<input type="checkbox"/> I <b>am seldom prepared</b> with assignments and required material (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> I am consistently <b>unprepared</b> for class (1)

Assignment Score \_\_\_\_\_

Adapted from following sources:

1. Texas Education Agency. (2006).
2. Mayer, C. (2011). Rubric for Evaluation of Class Participation.

## Work cited

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