

ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR

Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Latin American Studies
Degree Program

Spring 2004
Assessment Period Covered

July 1, 2004
Date Submitted

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose Linkage:

Institutional Mission Reference:

Texas A&M International University, a Member of The Texas A&M University System, is committed to the preparation of students for leadership roles in their chosen profession and in an increasingly complex, culturally diverse state, national, and global society ... Through instruction, faculty and student research, and public service, Texas A&M International University is a strategic point of delivery for well-defined programs and services that improve the quality of life for citizens of the border region, the State of Texas, and national and international communities.

College/University Goal(s) Supported:

The College of Arts and Sciences is dedicated to the provision of programs that prepare students for a variety of professional rates through enhancement of their abilities to communicate and to understand and appreciate the world through a broad-based, liberal arts education.

Intended Educational (Student) Outcomes:

- 1.** Students completing the Latin American Studies program will demonstrate competency in writing the Spanish language.
- 2.** Graduates of the program in Latin American Studies will have a broad, integrated knowledge of Latin American anthropology, art, economics, geography, history, politics, and sociology.
- 3.** Graduates will be prepared for entry into careers relating to Latin America.

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Intended Educational (Student) Outcome:

1. Students completing the Latin American Studies program will demonstrate competency in writing the Spanish language.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

1a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

Latin American Studies seniors enrolled in the capstone course will write a graded six to eight page essay for one assignment during the course. A team of faculty members from the Spanish Department will assess the proficiency of the written Spanish using a rubric. The average scores on the examination will be at least 70%.

1a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

This is a new program with students moving up in their individual programs. We still had no seniors in Spring 2004; our most advanced student is a junior who should take the capstone course in Spring 2005.

1a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

Because there were no graduating seniors, no data could be gathered at this time.

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Intended Educational (Student) Outcome:

2. Graduates of the program will have a broad, integrated knowledge of Latin American anthropology, art, economics, geography, history, politics, and sociology.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

2a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

Latin American Studies (LAS) seniors enrolled in the capstone course will write a research paper designed to integrate conceptual approaches from three of the disciplines represented in the intended educational outcome. Research will focus on case studies of contemporary Latin American developments selected by a team of faculty from the LAS committee. A team of committee members will assess the paper using a four-point rubric. Students will score at least three on each component of the rubric.

2a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

This is a new program with students moving up in their individual programs. We still had no seniors in Spring 2004; our most advanced student is a junior who should take the capstone course in Spring 2005.

2a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

Because there were no graduating seniors, no data could be gathered at this time.

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Intended Educational (Student) Outcome:

3. Graduates will be prepared for entry into careers relating to Latin America.

First Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3a. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

Graduates will be surveyed one year after graduation to gather supporting data on whether the program prepared them for careers relating to Latin America. On a scale of 1 (Strongly agree) to 5 (Strongly disagree), at least 90% of students will respond with a 1 or 2.

3a. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

This is a new program with students moving up in their individual programs. We still had no seniors in Spring 2004; our most advanced student is a junior who should graduate in either Spring 2005 or Fall 2005.

3a. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

No data gathered.

Second Means of Assessment for Outcome Identified Above:

3b. Means of Program Assessment & Criteria for Success:

Graduating seniors will be surveyed at the end of the capstone course to gather supporting data on whether the program prepared them for careers relating to Latin America. On a scale of 1 (Strongly agree) to 5 (Strongly disagree), at least 90% of students will respond with a 1 or 2.

3b. Summary of Assessment Data Collected:

This is a new program with students moving up in their individual programs. We still had no seniors in Spring 2004; our most advanced student is a junior who should graduate in either Spring 2005 or Fall 2005.

____b. Use of Results to Improve Instructional Program:

Because there were no graduating seniors, no data could be gathered at this time.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION

SOURCE	LOCATION/Special Instructions