

**Texas A&M International University**  
**Annual Institutional Effectiveness Review (AIER)**  
(Transition Period)

**Date Submitted** 05-31-05

**Assessment Period Covered (FY 2005)**

**Budget Period Covered (FY 2005)**

**Academic Program/AES Unit** Master of Arts with a Major in Spanish (MA)

**Person Preparing Review** Dr. José Cardona-López, Dr. Kati Pletsch de García

**Provide summary of the last cycle's use of results and changes implemented.**

Assesment was conducted in Fall 2004 and Spring 2005 by the Spanish Faculty. Five MA graduate students took the comprehensive exams and all passed. It was a pass rate of 100%. This program will continue unchanged because at this point the numbers are too small to generalize results or changes over time.

**Provide summary of budget decisions and their impact on your program/division.**

No budget impact

Section I: Planning and Implementation

**Institutional Mission**

Texas A&M International University, a Member of The Texas A&M University System, prepares students for leadership roles in their chosen profession 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 embodies 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.

**Academic Program/Administrative/Educational Support Unit Mission**

In unison with the institutional mission, this Department is dedicated to the promotion of intellectual and personal growth in students, with an emphasis on endowing them with flexibility to adapt to the ever-changing social, professional, economic, cultural, and political environments ushered in by this era of rapid technological change, information proliferation, and global interdependence. To achieve these aims, the Department is committed to the retention of a productive, professionally diverse and highly competent faculty involved in a wide range of academic endeavors.

**Identify outcomes and relationship to Strategic Plan**

**Outcome 1**

Graduates will have a comprehensive knowledge of the language, literature and culture of Spain and Spanish America.

**Identify Strategic Plan Goal related to Outcome 1**

Goal 2 Academic

**Identify Strategic Plan Objective and Strategy related to Outcome 1 (Appendix A – Strategic Goals)**

Implement an Institutional Effectiveness plan to evaluate academic and educational/administrative support units and track the use of results used to improve programs.

**Methods of assessment**

At least 90% of the students will pass the comprehensive exams, as judged by the departmental faculty evaluating this required activity.

**Frequency of administration**

Students take the comprehensive exams once every Fall and Spring Semesters provided there are eligible candidates.

**Criteria/Benchmark**

At least 90% of the graduates will pass the comprehensive exams.

---

**Outcome 2**

Graduates will have written or presented publishable papers which demonstrate their familiarity with literary theory and criticism, and their command of research skills.

**Identify Strategic Plan Goal related to Outcome 2**

Goal 2 Academic

**Identify Strategic Plan Objective and Strategy related to Outcome 2 (Appendix A – Strategic Goals)**

Implement an Institutional Effectiveness plan to evaluate academic and educational/administrative support units and track the use of results used to improve programs.

**Methods of assessment**

At least 70% of the MA students, by their graduation date, will have presented papers, or participated in panel discussions at a local or regional conference or colloquium.

**Frequency of administration**

Each fall and spring semester.

**Criteria/Benchmark**

Seventy percent.

---

**Outcome 3**

Graduates completing the MA degree who desire to pursue doctoral studies in Spanish will be successful in gaining admission to Ph.D. programs in Spanish.

**Identify Strategic Plan Goal related to Outcome 3**

Goal 2 Academic

**Identify Strategic Plan Objective and Strategy related to Outcome 3 (Appendix A – Strategic Goals)**

Implement an Institutional Effectiveness plan to evaluate academic and educational/administrative support units and track the use of results used to improve programs.

**Methods of assessment**

A post-graduate survey conducted yearly will be conducted to collect this information.

**Frequency of administration**

At least once per academic year following spring semesters.

**Criteria/Benchmark**

Eighty percent of graduates who seek entrance into graduate programs in Spanish will be admitted.

## Section II: Analysis of Results

### **When (term/date) was assessment conducted?**

#### **Outcome 1**

Fall 2004 - Spring 2005

#### **Outcome 2**

Fall 2004 - Spring 2005

#### **Outcome 3**

Spring 2005

---

### **What were the results attained (raw data)?**

#### **Outcome 1**

Five MA graduate students took the comprehensive exams and all passed. The pass rate is 100%.

#### **Outcome 2**

There were five graduate students (100%) graduating spring 2005. All of these students wrote and presented papers to a local audience.

#### **Outcome 3**

Four of our former MA students applied to the Collaborative Ph.D. in Hispanic Studies and two were admitted-50% entrance rate.

---

### **Who (specify names) conducted analysis of data?**

#### **Outcome 1**

Dr. Kati Pletsch de García, Dr. Ezra Engling, Dr. José Cardona-López.

#### **Outcome 2**

Dr. Kati Pletsch de García, Dr. Ezra Engling, Dr. José Cardona-López..

#### **Outcome 3**

Dr. Kati Pletsch de García.

---

### **When were the results and analysis shared? With whom (department chair, supervisor, staff, external stakeholders)? Minutes with data analysis submitted to [assessment@tamiu.edu](mailto:assessment@tamiu.edu)? (Please use Minutes Template located on the Project INTEGRATE web page.)**

For Outcome 1 the results and analysis were shared in both Fall 2004 and Spring 2005; for Outcomes 2 and 3 in Spring 2005. No minutes were submitted.

**Has the assessment documentation (i.e., surveys, rubrics, course exams with embedded questions, etc.) been submitted to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning?**

For Outcomes 1 and 2, the documentation is found in reports found in the Department of Language and Literature and Institutional Effectiveness Office. For Outcome 3 the documentation is found in email messages and in minutes of meetings in Department of Language and Literature.

**Use of Results: Indicate what changes, if any, based on the data have been recommended?**

**Outcome 1**

Spanish will continue with the program unchanged.

**Outcome 2**

The present means of assessment will be continued.

**Outcome 3**

Although the entrance rate was only 50%, TAMIU is only guaranteed two slots per year for entrance of our students into the Collaborative Ph.D. in Hispanic Studies. The faculty will continue to advise all graduates to consider continuing their education at the doctoral level.

Section III: Programmatic Review

**What are the implications of the recommended changes?**

No changes have been recommended because the numbers are too small at this point to generalize results or changes over time. These small numbers do not provide an adequate basis for interpretation as well.

**Will resources be affected by the recommended changes?**     Yes     No

**If so, specify the anticipated effect(s) using the chart below:**

Funding	Physical	Other
<input type="checkbox"/> New resources required	<input type="checkbox"/> New or reallocated space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primarily faculty/staff time
<input type="checkbox"/> Reallocation of current funds		<input type="checkbox"/> University rule/procedure change only
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

**Narrative description and justification for request including related strategy (Attach Budget Request ‘Form B’ and/or ‘Form C’)**

**If funding, physical or other resources were requested, what is the impact of the budget decisions on program/division?**

**In the box below, provide information on the outcomes for the next assessment cycle:**

Outcomes for Next Assessment Cycle
Continuation of present outcome(s) - (Indicate reason for continuation): The MA program in Spanish will continue with the same goals. At the present there is not enough information that permits to have general or particular conclusions.
New Outcome(s) – (List outcomes below):
Modification of present outcome(s) – (Indicate reason for modification):