ASSESSMENT REPORT/PLAN

College/Division: Humanities and Natural Sciences  Academic Year: 2010-2011
Department/Center/Office: Latin American Studies  Submission Date: 10/28/2011

MISSION STATEMENT:
By supporting scholarly and academic programs, The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies attempts to bring together the university students, staff, and faculty, with the Latino community and the New Orleans community at large. We use a multifaceted effort to increase interdisciplinary educational experiences and promote the active engagement of the university with the worlds around it and to build from and promote the spread of Jesuit values through the global community.

OBJECTIVES/GOALS:
1. Develop a methodology for critical thinking about Latin America, the Caribbean and US-Latino communities, including culture and sociological, political and anthropological issues.
2. Develop a sense of the history, language, and culture of Latin American countries
3. Develop a sense of the arts, literary, musical, visual, in Latin America, the Caribbean and US-Latino communities
4. Develop a methodology for integrating different disciplines in the minor and major programs
5. Develop language competence in Spanish

ASSESSMENT (What assessment tools are you using and how do they address the objective/goals cited above?):

Assessment Tools for Goal 1:
- Final exams or special final projects in History, Literature, Language and other Latin American Studies courses.
- Capstone experiences such as special research projects, internships, and oral history projects.

Assessment Tools for Goal 2:
- Final exams from Latin American, the Caribbean and US-Latino communities history and sociology courses.
- Term papers from appropriate courses

Assessment Tools for Goal 3:
- Exams from appropriate courses.
- Term papers from appropriate courses.
- Special projects such as video projects or oral history projects

Assessment Tools for Goal 4:
- Final paper for last course in the minor must be interdisciplinary
- Capstone experience

Assessment Tool for Goal 5: Students must complete Spanish language training by approving at least two SPAN-A300 courses.

WHERE ARE THE ASSESSMENTS LOCATED?
All assessments, and reports are located within the Departments that participate in the Latin American Studies program, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and on the Intranet.
EVALUATION METHODS (How were the assessments evaluated?):

Employment and graduation rates are obtained from the Senior Exit Survey and review during Steering Committee meetings.

Professors conducting capstone experiences report to the Center for Latin American Studies and save copies of the projects for reviewing and evaluation.

Access to a limited number of student evaluations

RESULTS/OUTCOMES:

The Latin American Studies program, as a whole, responds to the expectations of graduating students.

Capstone experiences have been conducted in a variety of areas, but specially Latin American Literature, Cultural Studies and Oral History.

Some professors can do a better job. However, those instructors are not 100% under the Center director’s supervision.

USE OF RESULTS (What modifications, adjustments were made based upon the evaluation of the assessment materials?):

The Center is currently working on developing a separate assessment plan for the academic and administrative components.

The Center will work with participating academic departments to have access to other LAS instructor’s students evaluations.

The Center is producing guidelines to incorporate and evaluate more capstone options.

RESOURCES/TIMELINE/APPROVALS (Based upon the modifications/adjustments included in the USE OF RESULTS section, identify the timeline, resources and approvals required to implement the change.):

The Center is currently working on a five-year strategic plan that will address all the needs of the academic program. This strategic plan will also include specific goals, and assessment tools for other activities such as events and new academic programs.

The Center will have an external review in 2015, to be followed by an internal review in 2020.

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<tr>
<td>Name: Miguel Cierva da</td>
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