

Department Plan
Long Beach City College
Dept - Foreign Languages

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Mission: To offer formal transfer requirement courses for institutions of higher learning similar to the UC and CSU systems in Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish and Vietnamese.
To teach students to communicate effectively in a foreign language, stressing the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.
To develop an appreciation and understanding of cultural heritage.
To promote international understanding and exchange, supported by an extensive study abroad program.
To provide a pool of students to fill positions in the community which require competency in a foreign language.

Description: The department is currently teaching seven languages. Those languages are Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, and Vietnamese. In 2008 the department served 3,180 students total, which represents a slight increase over the previous year (3,090). The department is serving more students with 10% fewer sections offered over the last three years.

Summary of Access, Productivity & Effectiveness: The success rate has decreased 2%, the retention rate has decreased 3.1%, and the completion rate has decreased 2.1% over the last three years.

Effectiveness: These decreases, in our experience, are due to increasingly under-prepared students lacking basic skills, emotional maturity, and resources. Furthermore, it appears a significant number of students enroll in our 5-unit courses for the sole purpose of receiving financial aid, insurance coverage, and other benefits unrelated to the goal of learning a foreign language. However, the GPA has remained relatively stable at 2.87.

Internal Conditions (see Help for list): Currently, when students enroll in our classes, they often disregard prerequisites specified in the course catalog, class schedule, and course outline. Many students enroll in a level 1 class instead of a more appropriate, advanced level. Often, students with several semesters of previous language classes insist on enrolling in a beginning class, thereby seriously impacting retention, completion and success rates, because they are not challenged, are bored, do not participate in class, or complete the course requirements, and in general have a negative impact on the learning environment in the class. By the end of the semester, many of these students have dropped the class or received a failing grade.

External Condition-Regulatory/Legislative Changes: We regularly inform students about the transfer services available at LBCC, transfer fairs, transfer counseling, and invite counselors to speak about transfer possibilities, etc., to encourage students to continue with their foreign language studies beyond LBCC. Through the LBCC Foundation, students can also receive scholarships for studying languages, either at LBCC or through the Study Abroad program. We inform students of other scholarship and internship opportunities outside the college as well.
Both our Foreign Languages Lab and one of our classrooms (M102) are too small to accommodate the increased class size mandated by the college in Fall 2009. The language lab has only 35 student computers, and we are being asked to accept up to 39 students.
Our department still has no dedicated smart classrooms, which hinders our ability to teach with technologically advanced material.
We have seen a critical decline in the tutorial services available to our students. For example, there is currently only one tutor in Spanish at the 1A level available for nearly 2,000 students. There is very limited tutoring available for French and German, and none at all for the other languages we teach.

Faculty & Staff : Faculty: 6 full-time professors and an average of 34 part-time instructors per semester.
Support Staff: One 40% Administrative Assistant for the Department of Foreign Languages (DFL) office; one 100% Instructional Associate for the DFL lab and one 55% Instructional Assistant for the DFL lab.

Names & Titles of Program Review Participants: Dr. Jose Ramon Nunez, Interim Dean of Language Arts; Prof. Anita Cano, Dr. Marie-Laure Hinton, Prof. Rigo Ibarra, Prof. Charlotte Jackson, Dr. Elsa Saucedo, Prof. Ingrid Wollank

2009-2010 --Piloted, administered and analyzed reading component of SLOs

Accomplishments: --As per SLO data collected, all languages and levels met or exceeded proficiency

2010-2011 --Hired a full-time, tenure-track instructor of Spanish

Accomplishments: --Piloted, administered and analyzed listening and speaking components of SLOs

--Per SLO data collected, with the exception of three courses, all languages and levels met or exceeded proficiency

Goal: Increase Persistence Rate

Increase persistence rate from one level to the next appropriate level in all foreign languages

Year: 2011 - 2012

Start Date: 08/14/2009

Goal Status: In Progress

Goal Priority: High

Rationale: --Increase cultural awareness and motivate students to continue with their studies in Spanish, French, and German

--Many Spanish speakers enroll in Spanish 1 because they have never taken a Spanish class ; Spanish 1 does not meet their needs

Strategies: --Tutorial: Establish non-credit 0-unit basic skills course for foreign language students to implement in Fall 2012

--Add a new Elementary Spanish for Spanish Speakers

--Establish a Spanish Club and maintain the French and German clubs

Responsible Parties: All the Foreign Language Faculty

Campus supported by this goal: Both

Specify if goal is for Department/ Program

department or sub-area:

Name of sub-area, if n/a

applicable:

Other Area impacted by this goal: ACIT

Other Area(s) impacted by this goal: n/a

this goal:

Level of Support Needed: Department

Related Resources Needed

* Resources Needed Name: Facilities

Resources Needed Smart classrooms; funding for hourly faculty

Description:

Inter-Level/ VP Level Group Pending

Decision:

Fiscal Year: 2010 - 2011

Duration: On-going

Estimated Cost: 6000.0000

Type of Resource 130000 - Academic PT Instructional

Requested:

Justification for Resource In order to more effectively deliver material and attract students, we need smart classrooms. In order to teach

Request: additional level 2 classes, we will need to hire additional hourly faculty.

Department Code: 110100 Foreign Lang

Goal: Strengthen Spanish Program

Strengthen Spanish program

Year: 2011 - 2012

Start Date: 08/17/2009

End Date: 08/15/2011

Goal Status: Complete

Goal Priority: High

Rationale: Due to the fact that Dr. José Ramón Núñez became Interim Dean for the School of Language Arts, we lost a full-time faculty member. The Spanish program, the largest program within the Foreign Language Department, needs faculty support.

Strategies: The Foreign Language Department needs to hire a new full-time Spanish instructor in order to support the Spanish program and the department as a whole.

Responsible Parties: All the members of the Foreign Language Department

Campus supported by this goal: Both

goal:

Specify if goal is for Department/ Program

department or sub-area:

Other Area impacted by this goal: Human Resources

goal:

Other Area(s) impacted by this goal: Facilities (office space)

this goal:

Level of Support Needed: School or VP

Related Resources Needed

* Resources Needed Name: Foreign Language Faculty

Resources Needed Hire new full-time Spanish faculty member

Description:

Inter-Level/ VP Level Group Approved & Funded

Decision:

Fiscal Year: 2010 - 2011

Duration: On-going

Estimated Cost: 76000.0000

Type of Resource Personnel

Requested:

Department Code: 110100 Foreign Lang

Requested Funding Source: General Fund

* Resources Needed Name: Human Resources; Facilities

Resources Needed funding for full-time tenure track instructor of Spanish; office space

Description:

Inter-Level/ VP Level Group Pending

Decision:

Fiscal Year: 2011 - 2012

Duration: On-going

Estimated Cost: 90000.0000

Type of Resource 111000 - Academic FT Instructional

Requested:

Justification for Resource salary and office space required for full-time faculty member

Request:

Department Code: 110100 Foreign Lang

Goal: Strengthen German Program

Increase enrollment and promote transfer in the German program

Year: 2011 - 2012

Start Date: 09/17/2010

End Date: 09/17/2012

Goal Status: In Progress

Goal Priority: High

Rationale: Transfer students would benefit from an online course that focuses on reading knowledge to continue their studies at a four-year university

Strategies: Implement an online reading course in German

Responsible Parties: German Faculty

Campus supported by this Both

goal:

Specify if goal is for Department/ Program

department or sub-area:

Other Area impacted by this Distance Learning

goal:

Other Area(s) impacted by Faculty Resource Center

this goal:

Level of Support Needed: Department