

# **2012-2013 Ph.D. German Academic Assessment Plan**

College Liberal Arts and Sciences  
GERMAN-Ph.D.  
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## Academic Assessment Plan for GERMAN

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

### A. Mission

The graduate program in German Studies provides students with a rigorous training in German literature, visual culture, philosophy, critical theory, new media, and visual studies. Anchor courses cover literature and culture from the Middle Ages to today. Graduate students can integrate courses from other departments and centers in an interdisciplinary approach to German Studies. Past and current graduate students have focused on children's literature, Jewish Studies, Film and Media Studies, Women's Studies, and Medieval and Early Modern Studies. In keeping with the mission of a research university, the graduate program in German Studies trains and prepares future scholars and teachers of German Studies of careers in higher education, thus contributing to the mission of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences "to continually expand knowledge and practice in the most fundamental questions, particular those in the arts and humanities (but not confined to these). On a broader level, the graduate program in German contributes in a crucial way to the mission of the University of Florida to "link the history of Western Europe with the traditions and cultures of all societies," and to the creation of "the broadly diverse environment necessary to foster multi-cultural skills and perspectives."

### B. Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Measures

Ph.D. Program in German

I. Knowledge:

SLO: Students Identify, describe and examine an approved subject within German Studies.

II. Skills:

SLO: Literary/Cultural Studies: Students analyze and interpret German literary and cultural products, apply results to broader contexts and engage in academic discourse via writing and oral presentation.

III. Professional Behavior:

SLO: Students display knowledge of ethical human data collection, professional conduct and ethical academic writing skills (as established by the Modern Language Association).

Assessment Method: Successful completion of a graduate seminar including completion of a paper that represents a significant piece of independent research. Also, annual discussion and evaluation of students' ethical behavior done by the faculty at the meeting of graduate student assessment.

### C. Research

At the Ph.D level, students are expected to develop and carry out an original research project under the supervision of a PhD supervisory committee. The Ph.D. dissertation is of significantly greater scope (more than 150 pages), frequently further develops work at the M.A. level (i.e. an M.A. thesis), and documents an elaborated original position on the given research topic. The Ph.D. committee is chosen by the student, in consultation with a committee chair, and is based on the student's research interests. The culmination of the project is a dissertation. The project minimally consists of the following steps, which guide the student through the process of formulating and carrying out a substantive research project:

- qualifying exam
- dissertation proposal
- oral final exam
- a dissertation submitted to the graduate school

PhD students are strongly encouraged to present at least one paper at an academic conference during their degree program. Expectations are typically higher for those seeking an academic position.

### D. Assessment Timeline

Use this Assessment Timeline template for your plan. Add or delete rows and columns to accommodate your SLOs and assessments.

Program \_\_\_\_\_

College \_\_\_\_\_

Assessment	Assessment 1
SLOs	
Knowledge	
#1	Comprehensive exam
Skills	
#2	Oral component/thesis defense
Professional Behavior	
#3	Graduate Seminar

## E. Assessment Cycle

Assessment Cycle for:

Program German College CLAS

Analysis and Interpretation:

April 30

Program Modifications:

Completed by May 15

Dissemination:

Completed by May 31

SLOs	Year	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16
<b>Content Knowledge</b>							
#1		X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Skills</b>							
#2		X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Professional Behavior</b>							
#3		X	X	X	X	X	X

## F. Measurement Tools

Here, describe the measurement tools you use to assess the SLOs, and include at least one example.

Direct Measurements:

Ph.D. dissertation: An original research project under the supervision of a PhD supervisory committee, of a significant scope (more than 150 pages).

Example: Using and elaborating the previous example, the originality of the Ph.D. dissertation would consist in developing in a consistent, informed, and unique way the manner in which Martin Luther should be regarded as a progressive or revolutionary rather than as a cultural conservative.

Indirect Measures:

Upon completion of their degrees, graduates at the Ph.D. level will undertake an exit interview. Interviewees will be asked in particular to express their view of the efficacy of our efforts to achieve the SLOs. The data from these interviews will form part of the data considered and acted upon in our assessment cycle.

## G. Assessment Oversight

Here, list the names and contact information of those who oversee the assessment process in your program. Add or delete rows as needed.

Name	Department Affiliation	Email Address	Phone Number
Will Hasty	LLC-German	hasty@ufl.edu	352-273-3780

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## Figure 1. University of Florida Graduate/Professional Program Assessment Plan Review Rubric

Related resources are found at <http://www.ua.assessment.edu>

Program:		Year:			
Component	Criterion	Rating			Comments
		Met	Partially Met	Not Met	
Mission Statement	Mission statement is articulated clearly.				
	The program mission clearly supports the College and University missions, and includes specific statements describing how it supports these missions.				
Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) and Assessment Measures	SLOs are stated clearly.				
	SLOs focus on demonstration of student learning.				
	SLOs are measurable.				
	Measurements are appropriate for the SLO.				
Research	Research expectations for the program are clear, concise, and appropriate for the discipline.				
Assessment Map	The Assessment Map indicates the times in the program where the SLOs are assessed and measured.				
	The Assessment Map identifies the assessments used for each SLO.				
Assessment Cycle	The assessment cycle is clear.				
	All student learning outcomes are measured.				
	Data is collected at least once in the cycle.				
	The cycle includes a date or time period for data analysis and interpretation.				
	The cycle includes a date for planning improvement actions based on the data analysis.				
	The cycle includes a date for dissemination of results to the appropriate stakeholders.				

University of Florida Graduate/Professional Program Assessment Plan Review Rubric, continued

Component	Criterion	Rating			Comments
		Met	Partially Met	Not Met	
Measurement Tools	Measurement tools are described clearly and concisely.				
	Measurements are appropriate for the SLOs.				
	Methods and procedures reflect an appropriate balance of direct and indirect methods.				
	The report presents examples of at least one measurement tool.				
Assessment Oversight	Appropriate personnel (coordinator, committee, etc.) charged with assessment responsibilities are identified				