Plan to Implement The Discipline-Specific
Spoken, Visual, and Written Communication Requirement

Date: February 28, 2005

Department: Foreign Languages and Literatures

Departmental Contact: Fabrice Teulon, Chair Executive Committee

Contact Phone Number: 231-6693

Contact e-mail: fteulon@vt.edu

Submission of Plan includes:
1. Goals and Objectives
2. Plan for Implementation of Communication Requirement
3. Assessments

________________________________________________________________________

APPROVAL SIGNATURES

Department Representative: ___________________________ Date: ____________

College Dean: ___________________________ Date: ____________
Plan to Implement The Discipline-Specific
Spoken, Visual, and Written Communication Requirement
1. Goals and Objectives

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures helps majors prepare for their future professions by providing them with the opportunity to develop several significant skills that will allow them to assume leadership roles in the global marketplace of the twenty-first century: the written, spoken, and visual skills that will enable them to communicate and do business with non-English speakers; the cross-cultural awareness that will help them understand and deal with people whose worldview is defined by different values and norms than our own; the analytical thinking that comes from learning to write clear and persuasive prose in both their own language and another; and the liberal education that will allow them the flexibility to make the rapid shifts that the workplace of the twenty-first century will most certainly demand.

2. Plan for Implementation of Communication Requirement

Communication is a fundamental aspect of every phase of the FLL curriculum. Unlike other departments, students in FLL are required to express themselves in a foreign language. Students develop their abilities to communicate through a sequenced approach to skill development.

Although all three majors in the modern languages have different numbers for their courses, they share a common structure with regard to the development of communication skills. Course work for the major in modern languages begins on the 3000 level. This work provides a base for the content courses that follow on the 3000 and 4000 levels. Throughout their studies, students continue to build their abilities to express themselves effectively in the target language.
The writing component of the communication requirement is through assignments in all of the 3000- and 4000-level courses (except the oral proficiency sequence 3125-3126). Indeed, each of these nine courses required for the major meets or exceeds the former Writing Intensive requirements.

Speaking skills are addressed in a manner similar to writing skills. Class participation is a required and graded part of every course. In addition, 3000- and 4000-level courses require presentations as a significant part of the class grade. Since oral skills are the most difficult aspect of learning a foreign language for most students, we require students to take a two semester sequence of Oral Proficiency (3125-3126) devoted entirely to oral communication. Student must achieve a level based on the nationally recognized scale established by ACTFL (American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages). At the end of 3125, they must achieve the equivalent of Intermediate High; to pass 3126, and receive a BA, they must have achieved the equivalent of Advanced.

Visual communication, while not as fundamental in our discipline, is stressed in a number of contexts. Each major requires students to take culture and civilization courses that emphasize the art and architecture of the regions where the languages are spoken. Students also learn to select the most effective means of representing visually salient information, based on specific situations. They utilize a variety of media, both traditional and more recent computer graphics and digital media in oral and written presentations.

### Sequenced Approach to Skills Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Level</th>
<th>Communicative Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3105-3106</td>
<td>Writing, Speaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3125-3126</td>
<td>Speaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32XX, 33XX, 34XX</td>
<td>Writing, Speaking, Visual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41XX</td>
<td>Advanced Writing and Speaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43XX</td>
<td>Advanced Writing, Speaking, and Visual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Classical Studies major is an interdisciplinary major that entails ancient languages (ancient Greek and Latin), as well as required courses History, Humanities, Art & Art
History (and options from several other departments). The goals are similar, but the methods and evaluation are adjusted slightly. Guidelines for the speaking skills are not set clearly by ACTFL, but we use something akin to it in Latin and Ancient Greek, with added emphasis on transparent linguistic theory as a foundational premise, and frequent oral exercises in the target language; as in the other majors, oral presentations (using a variety of media) are an integral part of the required courses. Development of writing skill is seen in the traditional mode of WI courses as well as the variety of writing assignments normally seen in other advanced language courses; in Classical Studies the writing assignments are in English as well as in the target language. Visual communication is common not only to the culture courses but also in all of the language courses; in the study ancient languages, we use a wide variety of media for instruction and reports, and also focus extensively on the evidence we have from art and material remains. In addition, each student is required to take a course in material culture that emphasizes extensive skills in observation, discussion, and presentation of visual material.

3. Assessment

- Student work in each course is graded to assess individual performance.
- Graduating student exit interviews that will specifically refer to the communication requirement.
- Alumni are surveyed periodically to assess the extent to which the program provided effective professional preparation.
- Oral skills are specifically assessed to determine the individual student level based on the ACTFL scale (American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages).
CI REQUIREMENT

Statement of Goals
The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures meets the CI requirement through its regular offering of all 3000 and 4000 level courses in modern languages and in most classics courses at 2000 level or above. The Speaking/Writing/Visual requirement is met by the very nature of the courses offered by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. Students are required to demonstrate analytical skills in textual and visual media, as well as an ability to express themselves clearly in a variety of contexts. Each course listed below has a significant writing and/or speaking component.

Students will learn to express themselves clearly in writing, in oral presentations, and through visual media

Assessment of outcomes
Students much achieve a C or better in the courses listed below to satisfy this requirement.

Classics Course Listing:

CLA 2444 (ENGL 2444) (HUM 2444): ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN MYTHOLOGY
CLA 2454 (ENGL 2454) (HUM 2454): ANCIENT GREEK AND LATIN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

French Course Listing:

FR 3105, 3106: GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION AND CONVERSATION
FR 3125-3126: FRENCH FOR ORAL PROFICIENCY
FR 3164: ADVANCED BUSINESS FRENCH
FR 3205, 3206: FRENCH CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION
FR 3304: INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH LITERATURE
FR 3305, 3306: SURVEY OF FRENCH LITERATURE
FR 3314: INTRODUCTION TO FRANCOPHONE STUDIES
FR 3404 (ENGL 3404): FRENCH LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
FR 4154: ADVANCED COMPOSITION AND STYLISTICS
FR 4164: SPECIAL TOPICS IN BUSINESS FRENCH
FR 4314: STUDIES IN FRENCH LITERATURE

German Course Listing:

GER 3104: COMMERCIAL GERMAN
GER 3105, 3106: GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION AND CONVERSATION
GER 3125-3126: GERMAN ORAL PROFICIENCY
GER 3204: CULTURE OF THE GERMAN-SPEAKING COUNTRIES
GER 3304: INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN LITERATURE
GER 3305, 3306: SURVEY OF GERMAN LITERATURE
GER 4154: ADVANCED COMPOSITION AND STYLISTICS
GER 4304: AGE OF GOETHE
GER 4314: STUDIES IN 19TH-CENTURY LITERATURE
GER 4324: STUDIES IN 20TH-CENTURY LITERATURE
GER 4334: SPECIAL TOPICS IN GERMAN LIFE, LITERATURE, AND LANGUAGE

Ancient Greek Course Listing:

GR 2104 (REL 2104): GREEK NEW TESTAMENT
GR 2114: READINGS IN CLASSICAL GREEK LITERATURE

Latin Course Listing:

LAT 2104: CICERO AND LIVY
LAT 2114: LATIN EPIC: VERGIL AND OVID
LAT 2124: LATIN LYRIC: CATULLUS AND HORACE
LAT 2134: LATE MEDIEVAL LATIN
LAT 3004: READINGS IN LATIN LITERATURE

Russian Course Listing:

RUS 3105, 3106: GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION AND CONVERSATION
RUS 3124: RUSSIAN FOR ORAL PROFICIENCY
RUS 3424 (ENGL 3424): RUSSIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
RUS 4204: TOPICS IN RUSSIAN CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION
RUS 4304: STUDIES IN RUSSIAN LITERATURE

Spanish Course Listing:

SPAN 3104: COMMERCIAL SPANISH
SPAN 3105, 3106: GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION & CONVERSATION
SPAN 3125-3126: SPANISH FOR ORAL PROFICIENCY
SPAN 3304: INTRODUCTION TO HISPANIC LITERATURE
SPAN 3404*: EARLY PENIN. CULTURE & LIT. (PREVIOUSLY SPAN 3314)
SPAN 3414*: MODERN PENIN. CULTURE & LIT. (PREVIOUSLY SPAN 3204)
SPAN 3434 (ENGL 3434): HISPANIC LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
SPAN 3444*: EARLY SPAN-AM. CULTURE & LIT. (PREVIOUSLY SPAN 3214)
SPAN 3454*: MODERN SPAN-AM. CULTURE & LIT (PREVIOUSLY SPAN 3324)
SPAN 4104: ADVANCED GRAMMAR & STYLE
SPAN 4114: TOPICS IN SPANISH LINGUISTICS
SPAN 4304: STUDIES IN MEDIEVAL & GOLDEN AGE LITERATURE
SPAN 4314: STUDIES IN 18TH & 19TH CENTURY LITERATURE
SPAN 4324: STUDIES IN 20TH CENTURY LITERATURE
SPAN 4334: SPECIAL TOPICS IN HISPANIC LIFE, LITERATURE & LANGUAGE
SPAN 4344: SPANISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE & THE REPRESENTATION OF HISTORY

* Course number adopted in fall 2004
CI STATEMENT
(from the Executive Committee, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures)

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures meets the CI requirement through its regular offering of all 3000 and 4000 level courses in modern languages and in most Classics, Latin, and Ancient Greek courses at 2000 level or above. The Speaking/Writing/Visual requirement is met by the very nature of the courses offered by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. Students are required to demonstrate analytical skills in textual and visual media, as well as an ability to express themselves clearly in a variety of contexts. Each course listed below has a significant writing and/or speaking component.

Classics Course Listing:

CLA 2444 (ENGL 2444) (HUM 2444): ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN MYTHOLOGY
CLA 2454 (ENGL 2454) (HUM 2454): ANCIENT GREEK AND LATIN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION

French Course Listing:

FR 3105, 3106: GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION AND CONVERSATION
FR 3125-3126: FRENCH FOR ORAL PROFICIENCY
FR 3164: ADVANCED BUSINESS FRENCH
FR 3205, 3206: FRENCH CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION
FR 3304: INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH LITERATURE
FR 3305, 3306: SURVEY OF FRENCH LITERATURE
FR 3314: INTRODUCTION TO FRANCOPHONE STUDIES
FR 3404 (ENGL 3404): FRENCH LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
FR 4154: ADVANCED COMPOSITION AND STYLISTICS
FR 4164: SPECIAL TOPICS IN BUSINESS FRENCH
FR 4314: STUDIES IN FRENCH LITERATURE

German Course Listing:

GER 3104: COMMERCIAL GERMAN
GER 3105, 3106: GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION AND CONVERSATION
GER 3125-3126: GERMAN ORAL PROFICIENCY
GER 3204: CULTURE OF THE GERMAN-SPEAKING COUNTRIES
GER 3304: INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN LITERATURE
GER 3305, 3306: SURVEY OF GERMAN LITERATURE
GER 4154: ADVANCED COMPOSITION AND STYLISTICS
GER 4304: AGE OF GOETHE
GER 4314: STUDIES IN 19TH-CENTURY LITERATURE
GER 4324: STUDIES IN 20TH-CENTURY LITERATURE
GER 4334: SPECIAL TOPICS IN GERMAN LIFE, LITERATURE, AND LANGUAGE
Ancient Greek Course Listing:

GR 2104 (REL 2104): GREEK NEW TESTAMENT
GR 2114: READINGS IN CLASSICAL GREEK LITERATURE

Latin Course Listing:

LAT 2104: CICERO AND LIVY
LAT 2114: LATIN EPIC: VERGIL AND OVID
LAT 2124: LATIN LYRIC: CATULLUS AND HORACE
LAT 2134: LATE MEDIEVAL LATIN
LAT 3004: READINGS IN LATIN LITERATURE

Russian Course Listing:

RUS 3105, 3106: GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION AND CONVERSATION
RUS 3124: RUSSIAN FOR ORAL PROFICIENCY
RUS 3424 (ENGL 3424): RUSSIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
RUS 4204: TOPICS IN RUSSIAN CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION
RUS 4304: STUDIES IN RUSSIAN LITERATURE

Spanish Course Listing:

SPAN 3104: COMMERCIAL SPANISH
SPAN 3105, 3106: GRAMMAR, COMPOSITION & CONVERSATION
SPAN 3125-3126: SPANISH FOR ORAL PROFICIENCY
SAPN 3304: INTRODUCTION TO HISPANIC LITERATURE
SPAN 3404*: EARLY PENIN. CULTURE & LIT. (PREVIOUSLY SPAN 3314)
SPAN 3414*: MODERN PENIN. CULTURE & LIT. (PREVIOUSLY SPAN 3204)
SPAN 3434 (ENGL 3434): HISPANIC LITERATURE IN ENGLISH
SPAN 3444*: EARLY SPAN-AM. CULTURE & LIT. (PREVIOUSLY SPAN 3214)
SPAN 3454*: MODERN SPAN-AM. CULTURE & LIT (PREVIOUSLY SPAN 3324)
SPAN 4104: ADVANCED GRAMMAR & STYLE
SPAN 4114: TOPICS IN SPANISH LINGUISTICS
SPAN 4304: STUDIES IN MEDIEVAL & GOLDEN AGE LITERATURE
SPAN 4314: STUDIES IN 18TH & 19TH CENTURY LITERATURE
SPAN 4324: STUDIES IN 20TH CENTURY LITERATURE
SPAN 4334: SPECIAL TOPICS IN HISPANIC LIFE, LITERATURE & LANGUAGE
SPAN 4344: SPANISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE & THE REPRESENTATION OF HISTORY

* Course number adopted in fall 2004