Prospective language majors must schedule a formal meeting with the members of the Department of Modern Languages in the second semester of their sophomore year in order to be considered for admission to Upper Division. To schedule that meeting, students must compose a business style cover letter (letter of intent) that is written in the language of study. The LOI will prompt the scheduling of the students’ defense.

At the defense, students must demonstrate that they have carefully reflected on and have given serious consideration to the motives behind pursuing a degree in language, and must demonstrate their communicative abilities in the language. The formal presentation (in a format such as Power Point or Prezi, etc.) must address each of the components below thoroughly and completely, and must be between 15-20 minutes. ***Sections 1-4 are in English***. Please design your presentation to follow the number/letter format below; all components must be addressed formally.

1. Interest
2. Why are you interested in pursuing a degree in French/Spanish?
3. Describe key factors that influenced your decision to pursue this degree.
4. Explain why you have chosen this field, and this particular language, for your career path.
5. Preparation for Upper Division
6. Describe how the courses you’ve taken thus far have prepared you for UD coursework
7. Discuss what you have learned from specific courses in terms of cultural knowledge and values, language and linguistic skills, and communication skills.
8. Discuss how the Colloquium has shaped your academic choices
9. Address your progress in your secondary language of study
10. Address your GPA in L2 studies and at the college
11. Address your progress toward completion of the core competencies
12. Goals Related to Language Study & Goal Advancement
13. Describe your personal goals with regard to language study
14. Where do you see yourself in the future as it relates to language study
15. Discuss your plans for / progress in a Minor and/or the Plus+ programs or toward adolescent certification
16. Discuss your study abroad plans (be specific)
17. Discuss the internships / co-op experiences / service learning experiences you are pursuing
18. Discuss involvement you have had with the language-community outside of the college
19. Self-Assessment
20. Identify at least three strengths you identified through the self-assessment you completed and describe how you will continue to develop those strengths.
21. Identify at least three areas for improvement that you identified through the self-assessment and describe a specific plan of action you take to make improvements.
22. Summarization of arguments (sections 1-4) ***in the primary language of study***
23. Demonstration of skills ***in the secondary language of study***
24. Cover Letter (letter of interest) ***written in the primary language of study***
25. Completion of the self-assessment form

**SELF-ASSESSMENT**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **OUTSTANDING** | **ABOVE AVERAGE** | **AVERAGE** | **BELOW AVERAGE** | **NOT APPLICABLE** |
| **ACADEMIC ABILITIES** |  | | | | |
| Oral communication skills |  |  |  |  |  |
| Written communication skills |  |  |  |  |  |
| Listening abilities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reading comprehension |  |  |  |  |  |
| Application of course material |  |  |  |  |  |
| Classroom participation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ability to accept cultural differences |  |  |  |  |  |
| Research abilities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Critical thinking abilities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Progress in a second L2 at or beyond intermediate level proficiency |  |  |  |  |  |
| **PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES** |  | | | | |
| Motivation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-discipline |  |  |  |  |  |
| Emotional maturity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stress management skills |  |  |  |  |  |
| Integrity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Confidence |  |  |  |  |  |
| Leadership abilities |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ability to cope with ambiguity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Openness to change |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self-awareness |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ability to work well with others |  |  |  |  |  |
| Collaboration |  |  |  |  |  |
| Regularly attend class |  |  |  |  |  |
| Regularly attend department meetings |  |  |  |  |  |
| Am a role model for non-majors |  |  |  |  |  |
| **LINGUISTICS & LANGUAGE** |  | | | | |
| I have an understanding of the relationship between language and culture |  |  |  |  |  |
| I recognize linguistic patterns |  |  |  |  |  |
| I have command over a range of L2 syntax |  |  |  |  |  |
| I have steadily developing L2 vocabulary |  |  |  |  |  |
| **LITERATURE & CULTURE** |  | | | | |
| I have an appreciation for other cultures |  |  |  |  |  |
| I have an appreciation for other points of view |  |  |  |  |  |
| I have an understanding of L2 literature |  |  |  |  |  |
| I have an understanding of L2 history |  |  |  |  |  |
| I have an awareness of cultural norms/practices |  |  |  |  |  |

**Note: At the defense students must submit in hard copy their 1) cover letter, 2) self-assessment form, and 3) a copy of their presentation.**