

Final Assessment Report
Submitted by SUPR-G to SCAPA

Program:	Hispanic Studies
Degrees Offered:	MA in Hispanic Studies PhD in Hispanic Studies
Approved Fields:	Hispanic Literatures and Cultures (Medieval to Baroque) Hispanic Literatures and Cultures in the Age of Globalization Linguistics and Languages in Contact
Date of Site Visit:	April 30-May 1 2013
Evaluation:	<i>Good Quality</i>

Summary:

The review of the external reviewers was very positive, and noted the excellent quality and strong commitment of the core faculty and those outside the department who are affiliated with the program. The reviewers also noted the energy and passion of the students and their positive view of the program and the support they receive. Some concerns reported by the reviewers include: overly heavy supervisory load for some faculty members; need for greater stability of administrative support; reservations about allowing a programming language to replace knowledge of a language other than Spanish or English; reservations about the publication requirement in the PhD program.

All these concerns were effectively addressed by the response of the Graduate Chair. The program has studied and will continue to study the imbalance of supervisory loads by judicious planning at the point of admission. The program also recognizes the urgent need for stable administrative support, and is finalizing the appointment of a new Undergraduate Administrative Assistant. The program has also decided to drop the option of allowing a programming language to replace the language requirement. The program has, however, decided to continue with the publication requirement for the PhD because it has been a positive experience for students, but the program will work to define more clearly the appropriate venues for publication.

The external reviewers' report ends with a summary statement about the innovative nature of research and pedagogy in the program, and comments on the vibrant community of students and faculty.

Recommendation:	Responsibility
Monitor assignment of supervisory responsibilities of faculty	Graduate Chair Department Chair
Streamline program design	Graduate Chair Hispanic Studies Graduate Committee
New appointment(s)	Dean Department Chair
Provide continuous level of administrative support	Dean Department Chair