**Expected Outcomes: Communicate coherently in written German**

Students will demonstrate proficiency in written German, including business related correspondence.

**Related typical general education outcomes:**

4. Ability to Construct Arguments  
7. Written Communication

**Assessment methods**

**Method:** Written samples  

Collect samples of students’ writing during their senior year, including samples created in business-related classes. Faculty members evaluate the students' work.

**Findings:**

This year, only one student completed the German/International Trade degree. As before, this is problematic for an accurate assessment of the program. However, this student’s writing sample was evaluated in the very good to excellent range.

**How did you use findings for improvement?**

The business German courses will continue to require written portfolios, which greatly impacts on students’ mastery of business-related vocabulary.

**Additional comments:**

Finding free internships for students has remained a challenge, but we continue to explore opportunities with German companies in the state of Alabama.

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**Expected Outcomes: Competence in oral communication**

Students will demonstrate proficiency in speaking and listening comprehension, including business-related matters.

**Related typical general education outcomes:**

8. Oral Communication

**Assessment methods**

**Method:** Oral samples  

Students make voice recordings of both a reading of a prepared text and extemporaneous speech. Faculty members evaluate the students’ samples. Students also have a brief exit interview with the undergraduate director.

**Findings:**

With only one student, assessment of the program’s efficacy is difficult, however, this student
How did you use findings for improvement?

All three upper-level business German courses will foster the increased proficiency of students in business-related contexts, by emphasizing authentic speech acts. The introduction of communicative modules throughout the curriculum should strengthen these efforts.

Additional comments:

In collaboration with a colleague, one of the German faculty members has obtained a grant to train key faculty members in each language in the testing of oral proficiency, and investigate ways to incorporate assessment of spoken language throughout the curriculum.

Expected Outcomes: Ability to read/understand business/culture texts

Students will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of business-related texts and contexts as well as cultural texts and contexts of German-speaking countries.

Related typical general education outcomes:
10 Intercultural Knowledge and Diversity Awareness

Assessment methods

Method: Written samples and exit interview

Collect samples of students' writing created during their senior year. Faculty members evaluate the students' work. Business-related issues, as well as cultural and political issues, in contemporary and historical contexts, are raised during the exit interview.

Findings:

There was only one German/International Trade student who completed his major this year. While this is problematic for assessment, the faculty determined this student's written work to be in the low excellent range.

How did you use findings for improvement?

The portfolios required by the Business German classes are having a positive impact on students' writing ability, hence, they will continue to be an important part of that curriculum. The section has decided to include a business-related reading text as part of the exit interview. The students will have to read a short text and answer questions about it during the interview.

Additional comments:

Finding free internship opportunities remains problematic, but the section will continue to search for such opportunities.