Purdue University Higher Education / Research Institution

Liberal Arts Department: Foreign Languages and Literatures

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Languages taught: Spanish for Heritage Speakers

The Spanish language program provides undergraduate and graduate level courses. In the near future, we hope to have a sequential program for heritage speakers with two levels.

The goals of the program are:

To expand fluency in written and spoken Spanish

The acquisition of standard Spanish spelling conventions

The acquisition of academic Spanish

The "identificación de diferentes registros/variantes del español en US"

Type of program: A heritage track within a foreign language program

The program was founded in 2004 by Professor Sonia González, who was hired to establish the program and to train graduate students to teach Spanish to heritage Spanish speakers.

Faculty and administration expectations for the program: To become a recognized and respected program and to prepare heritage Spanish speakers to use Spanish for personal and professional purposes.

Students

- First-generation immigrants 10%
- Second-generation immigrants 90%

Countries of origin: Mexico, Colombia, and Puerto Rico

Total student enrollment: 15

Age of students: 17-21

The program identifies heritage speakers with:

- · Background questionnaire
- Placement test

Continuing students take upper-level courses with foreign language students.

Faculty

Total number of faculty teaching in the program: 1

Number of tenure-track professors: 1

Languages in which faculty members are proficient: Spanish

Proficiency level: Native

Credentials – Doctorate in Chicano Literature and Teaching Spanish to heritage

speakers

Courses

The students are grouped according to level. In the spring 2007 there will be an intermediate and an advanced course.

Face-to-face course title:

- Spanish 303, Intermediate Level
- 3 hours per week during one semester

Skills

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

Culture taught

- History
- Songs
- Cultural appropriateness
- Literature

Interactive tools

- Email
- Online resources

Assessment

- Mid-term tests
- Final exam
- Student self-assessment instrument
- Performance-based tasks
- Portfolios

All activities promote involvement

Financial support

- Institutional/regular course
- Ethnic/cultural organizations