

Reflective Narrative for Major Learning Outcome 1

Courses taken to fulfill this MLO: SPAN 301
SPAN 304
SPAN 306
SPAN 315
SPAN 345
SPAN 426

Meeting the outcomes for this MLO was supported by the courses mentioned previously. Through the academic projects required for these classes I was able to develop my language proficiency in three modes: interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational. I developed this proficiency in social and professional settings; working with classmates to create great projects and giving presentations that helped me in the professional field. The linguistic courses helped me to learn more about the Hispanic languages and the literature courses helped me to develop the language knowledge in the literary field. The speaking ability was constructed through the presentations required as final projects for each class. The presentations required a high level of professional and academic Spanish in the field being studied, either linguistics or literature. I have definitely developed my presentational skills, and the area that I want to keep developing is the interpretational. I consider that interpreting academic Spanish is not easy, there are always aspects that need improvement. The listening ability was developed with the informative lectures that the professors offered in each class. Furthermore, I also learned a lot from the presentations of my classmates, every student had relevant information to share. The reading ability was developed with all these classes because for all of them I was required to learn a variety of texts,

informative and literary. The linguistics courses provided more contemporary information and findings about language. The literature courses provided literary masterpieces from authors. For all these classes that helped me meet the MLO requirements I was asked to write reflective essays about the class and the content that I learned.

I consider that the challenging area from this MLO is the reading ability, simply because it not only implies reading the texts but most important understand them. There is a variety of texts; descriptions, narratives, short stories, news, routine personal and business correspondence. Reading these type of texts require special language knowledge. To overcome this challenge I invested more time reading different texts, it helped me develop my vocabulary in different fields. It is important to have knowledge in different fields, literature, business, culture and much more.

This MLO contributed to my personal intellectual growth because I learned to develop my language proficiency in different ways, I learned to prepare myself for the social and professional world in my target language. I participated in study abroad and it did affect my understanding of MLO 1. After this experience I understood that it is highly important to be prepared for the competency out there. I studied in Spain for one semester and I was able to see that students from Spain take very serious the idea of being bilingual. Other countries consider that being bilingual is very important, this experience reassured my understanding that language proficiency is indeed very useful and important.