

**Professional Development Project for Program Assessment
(M.A. in French; M.A. in Spanish)**

Please complete this project prior to your comprehensive exams or thesis defense.
The answers may be written in English or French/Spanish.

This is an assessment tool developed for accreditation reporting to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. No letter grade is given on this task; it is graded as Pass/Fail. The purpose of this task is to ensure that candidates for the M.A. in French/Spanish are aware of opportunities for professional development.

Submit the completed project in person in LANG 101 on any day of your comprehensive exams. The project will be given to the appropriate graduate advisor in French or Spanish. If you have chosen the thesis option, bring the completed project to your thesis defense.

You do not need to include the instructions/questions for each item. Create a new document, and make sure that your answers match the numbers in the instructions provided below.

Professional Development Project

1. Visit the web site of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages:
<http://www.actfl.org/>

1a. In the menu *About ACTFL*, select the link *Join ACTFL*. (You are not being asked to join ACTFL. You are only required to click on the link to find information.) Then select the link *Benefits*. Explain briefly (1-2 sentences) 5 of the benefits associated with ACTFL membership that are described on the web site. For each of these benefits you identify, write 2-3 sentences explaining why or why not you think such benefits would apply to you as a future foreign language teacher.

1b. In the menu *Publications*, select the link *The Language Educator*. Write a brief summary (5-10 sentences) in English explaining the focus or purpose of this publication.

1c. Still in the area about *The Language Educator*, select the link *Sample Articles*. Read one of the sample articles, then write a summary (10-15 sentences) of the main point(s) or idea(s) of the article indicating how this publication could be useful to members of the wider community of all foreign language teachers (in the U.S. or in any country).

1d. Identify at least one professional meeting/conference or professional development opportunity organized by ACTFL.

2. Use a search engine, library resources, or professional contacts to identify a national or international association or group dedicated to the teaching of French/Spanish or the promotion of francophone/hispanophone culture(s). Visit the association's web site or find printed resources about the association in order to answer questions 2a. and 2b.

2a. What is this association's mission? (3-5 sentences)

2b. In what way(s), if any, could you benefit from membership and participation in this association as a future teacher of French/Spanish? (3-5 sentences)

2c. Identify at least one professional meeting/conference or professional development opportunity organized by this association.

3. Visit a Web site or Web forum dedicated to the teaching of French/Spanish.

3a. What is the main purpose or function of this site/forum?

4. Write one or two paragraphs (10-15 sentences) explaining at least one specific idea you have for working with students, other teachers, administrators, and/or other members of the community to promote the learning of French or Spanish specifically or foreign languages in general.