Departmental Scholarship Standards  
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures (FL&L)

Members of the department of FL&L engage in these disciplines:

1. Literary studies: French and Francophone, German and Spanish (Peninsular and Latin American);
2. Cultural studies: French and Francophone, German, Spanish, and European;
3. Classics (Greek and Latin);
4. Linguistics;
5. Methods of language instruction; and
6. Language teacher preparation

Each of these disciplines follows an individual guild standard rather than agency standards. The process of peer-review varies from discipline to discipline, country to country, and even journal to journal. The department of FL&L recognizes the scholarship of discovery, the scholarship of teaching, the scholarship of application, and the scholarship of synthesis as valid forms of scholarship.

The scholarship of discovery typically consists of primary research resulting in peer-reviewed books, articles in scholarly journals, chapters in books and book reviews, roughly in that order of priority. Primary research may also include publications of first critical editions of unedited manuscripts or early printed editions, ancient or modern, or primary research in linguistics, including studies on language structure or language acquisition per se. Literary criticism, annotated bibliographies, comparative literature and cross-cultural studies also fall under this rubric.

The scholarship of teaching includes classroom research on the effectiveness of teaching methods and primary research on language-teacher preparation that results in the publication of primary textbooks, scholarly articles, articles in edited volumes, literary or critical anthologies, glossaries and other ancillary teaching material, roughly in that order of priority. Department members also deliver conference presentations and offer workshops under this rubric.

The scholarship of application includes editing a journal, peer-reviewing conference submissions, or organizing a conference. Organizing a conference, while also an important service to a guild, demands significant intellectual labor in shaping the theme and sessions of the conference in order to foster the ongoing exchange of scholarly ideas.

The scholarship of synthesis represents a form of peer-reviewed scholarship geared toward dissemination by specialists addressing audiences of non-specialists as well as research in other disciplines. This form of scholarship has merit as an important contribution to the world outside of SPU, which we are called to engage and change.

In the department of FL&L, all forms of scholarship are highly prized. However, while a variety of other scholarly products, such as bibliographies, encyclopedia entries and book

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reviews are valued, they are not deemed sufficient, by themselves, for tenure and promotion. Refereed presentations, that is, those given under the auspices of a guild, are prized significantly more than independent ventures. In some of the professional organizations, the rejection rate for conference proposals exceeds that of major journals in the same field. Therefore, when this is the case, candidates for tenure and promotion in the department of FL&L will provide as much information as possible in their files regarding the acceptance or rejection rates for the journals in which they publish or the conferences they attend.

Each faculty member is expected to pursue scholarship on an ongoing basis. The department of FL&L places a high priority on excellence in teaching. Over the course of five years it is common for a member of our department to teach any combination of USEM, UCOR, elementary and intermediate language courses, literature survey courses, introductory or upper-division linguistics, advanced skills courses such as translation, and graduate seminars. Therefore, one published article, creative work, or refereed conference presentation every two years is deemed reasonable and is highly recommended.