French
December 2020 Report

French - Data Based Decisons (2020)

1. Other than the beginning and intermediate level courses we have turned away from American textbooks and focus on using authentic sources, texts, and media from France and the French speaking world, because students are more engaged that way and get a more authentic experience.
2. We recognize that even though Utah State is not traditionally known for its diversity overall, in the language programs students often have very diverse language backgrounds (at least this is the case in French). For example in the French 3060/4060 course, there were students from France, Morocco, Haiti, and then students who did immersion missions in France, Bénin, Congo, the Antilles, Québec, and Switzerland. In other words, this is an extremely diverse student body in terms of their French-speaking background and we are working hard to capitalize on that diversity in our lesson plans and in the classroom.
3. Based on graduate survey data, we have added more courses and piloted special topics courses related to culture (including those related to music, film, and social issues). We have also implemented more improvements in writing pedagogy and methodology, including have students write and revise multiple drafts after feedback to obtain better learning outcomes in writing in several of our French courses.
4. We've also created a lot more Canvas quizzes and assignments since our students have been using Content Management platforms in Middle School and in High School and they therefore have high expectations in that respect.