

## World Christians PLO

For our PLO on graduating “world Christians”, students have been regularly assessed in one of our departmental core courses, SP/FR 150, which all majors are required to take prior to their semester abroad. It should be mentioned that this course was originally developed as a direct response to earlier assessment data (see our prior 5-year report). Through regular pre- and post-testing using the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) as well as student portfolios, we have learned that our Modern Language majors indeed make *major strides* in their intercultural knowledge and competence. Appendix 9 provides several years of data to confirm this observation. They have found that our Modern Language students who take our preparation course for WIM consistently increase their intercultural competency while their peers studying abroad do not experience the same growth, and some may actually regress—returning with stereotypes reinforced, distorted and inaccurate views of the host culture and people, or unaware of the negative impressions they have left behind. By comparison, Modern Language majors who take SP/FR 150 increase on average by over 12 points, or more than 5 times the national average. In fact, the growth of our students is quite remarkable: according to the GCP—as well as our Westmont control group—students who study abroad without the orientation course increase their intercultural competency as measured by the IDI by less than 2.4 points (see chart below).

