3. Describe any graduate curriculum reviews that have occurred since the last review. Include dates of reviews, reasons for reviews, results of reviews, and specific improvements made to the curriculum as a result of the reviews.

For all graduate programs, course offerings and requirements were reviewed internally in preparation for the various editions of the Graduate Catalog.

For French:
- Internal French Graduate Program review of AY 2007-2008 for general assessment. Development of a rubric to evaluate comprehensive exams for UAOPS. The rubric allows us to see in what areas students possess strengths and in what areas the curriculum needs to be strengthened.
- In AY 2003-2004 the French and Spanish programs collaborated on a major revision of the Romance Languages track of the Ph.D. The revision affected both curriculum and testing format. Students can now major in either French or Spanish with an 18-hour minor, which may be in either French or Spanish or another concentration. Alternatively, students may major in either French or Spanish with a 30-hour concentration in linguistics. This option has proved especially popular. Testing was also revised. It now takes the form of a pre-prospectus, thus allowing students to move in a structured and mentored way into the dissertation.
- In AY 2002-2003 the French faculty changed the format of MA comprehensive exams. The new structure allowed students a choice of topics, and allowed students to opt out of certain topics if presenting a scholarly paper on that subject at a conference or if doing thesis work in the area. This more flexible, student-centered approach encourages students to engage in research and has also led to increased student satisfaction.

For German:
- Internal German Graduate Program review of AY 2007-2008 for general assessment. Development of a rubric to evaluate comprehensive exams for UAOPS. The rubric allows us to see in what areas students possess strengths and in what areas the curriculum needs to be strengthened.
- German Graduate Program instituted Goethe institute examinations for language assessment of non-native speaker GTAs in 2006.
- In response to student concerns about MA exams based entirely upon a lengthy reading list that was often not covered in MA coursework, faculty entirely revamped the comprehensive examination structure in 2002. Students in the German studies or Literature tracks now have a core reading list that is made available to them upon acceptance into the program. The comprehensive examinations are based on the core
reading list and on special topics selected by students from coursework or areas of interest. This more flexible, student-centered structure has led to increased student satisfaction. This applies to the philology track as well, which revised its exam requirements at the same time.

- GN 551/FR 512 Teaching Methodology/Practicum, created fall 2001. Faculty discussion led to this becoming a required course for GTAs
- GN 551/552/RL 680 Historical Linguistics, created spring 2002
- GN 510 History of the German Language, created fall 2002
- GN 552/FR 515 Topics in Second Language Acquisition, created spring 2003
- In AY 2007 GN 503/504 (German for Reading Knowledge) changed from a summer cycle to an academic year cycle.
- In spring 2009 course inventory paperwork submitted for:
  - GN 514 Teaching Methodology; GN 516 Topics in Second Language Acquisition; and
  - GN 518 / RL 518 Historical Linguistics

For Spanish:

- Internal Spanish Graduate Program review of AY 2007-2008 for general assessment. Development of a rubric to evaluate comprehensive exams for UAOPS. The rubric allows us to see in what areas students possess strengths and in what areas the curriculum needs to be strengthened.

- At one point six years ago, MA exams for those on the Hispanic literature track were based solely on coursework and required that students take an exam in each of the following six areas:

  Linguistics
  Golden Age Spanish literature
  19th-Century Spanish literature
  20th-Century Spanish literature
  Colonial Latin American Literature
  20th-Century Latin American Literature

  In the past six years, however, we have added a position in 19th-Century Latin American literature and a position in US Latino literature. Incorporating these two areas into exams would have meant including eight sections of the exam (which Spanish faculty members considered too many sections for an exam). At the same time, faculty members decided to add a basic reading list (consisting of six works) for all sections of the exams. Consequently, the new exam structure for MA students on the Hispanic literature track is as follows:

  Exams are based both on coursework and on the reading list for each section of the exam. Students must take a Linguistics exam in addition to two of the following three Peninsular sections:

  Golden Age Spanish literature
  19th-Century Spanish literature
  20th-Century Spanish literature

  and two of the following four Latin American sections:
MA students on the Hispanic literature track, then, will take five exams starting Fall 2010 and these exams will be based both on coursework and on reading lists.

- At the PhD level, students choosing the Romance Languages option with an 18-hour minor were required to take seven courses in Spanish literature. Spanish faculty members have decided to reduce this requirement to six courses, allowing students greater flexibility in choosing their courses at the PhD level.

- Please also see the remarks for French, above, with regard to the substantial changes to the Romance Languages track of the Ph.D. These changes involved both Spanish and French.