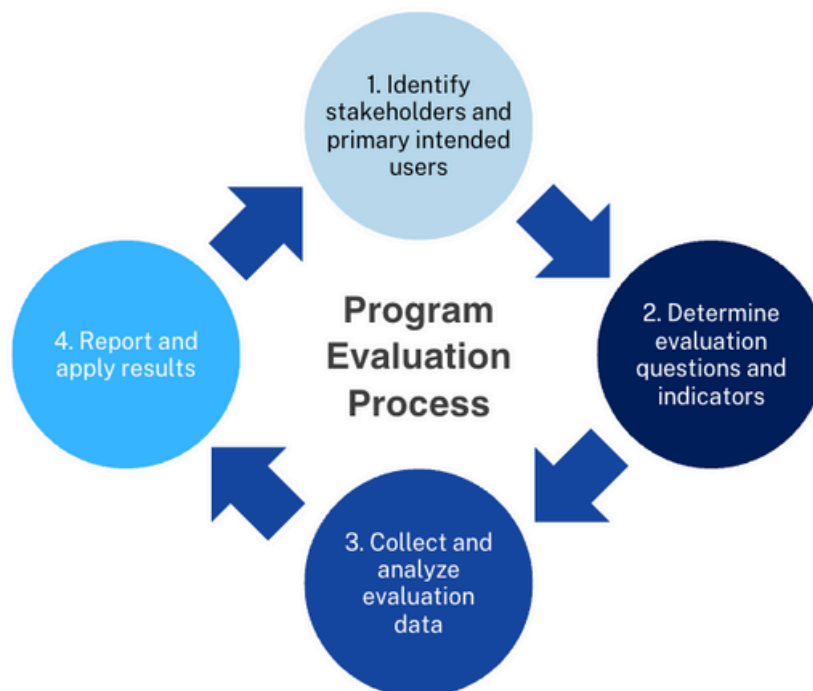


Planning for and Implementing Effective World Language Program Evaluation

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About Program Evaluation

Language program evaluation involves systematically collecting and analyzing program-level information to understand and make decisions about a program.



Free Resources from the AELRC

Check out the AELRC website for free language program evaluation resources, including training materials, guides, methods and tools, and a recently-updated bibliography.

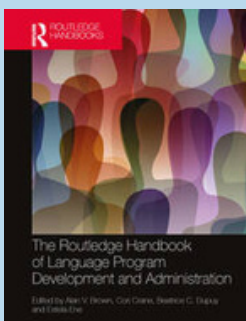


<https://aelrc.georgetown.edu/resources/evaluation/>

Coming soon: *The Routledge Handbook of Language Program Development and Administration*





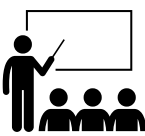

Chapter 10: Language Program Evaluation (More information [here](#))

This chapter discusses the evaluation process and emphasizes how Language Program Administrators can maximize the credibility and usefulness of evaluation results through a utilization-focused approach to language program evaluation. An overview of qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods is supported by practical examples from a variety of contexts and evaluation purposes.

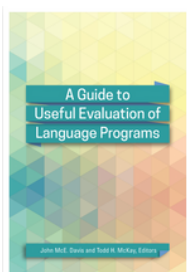


Data Collection Methods

Current approaches to program evaluation favor a mixed-methods design because this provides robust findings supported across different types of data.

Data Type	Resource	Example Evaluation
 <i>Language Tests</i>	Foreign Language Assessment Directory (Center for Applied Linguistics) https://www.cal.org/flad/	Morris, M. (2006). Addressing the challenges of program evaluation: One department's experience after two years. <i>Modern Language Journal</i> , 90(4), 585–588.
 <i>Focus Groups</i>	Krueger, R. A., & Casey, M. A. (2014). <i>Focus groups: A practical guide for applied research</i> (5th ed.). Sage.	Van Viegen, S., & Russell, B. (2019). More than language—Evaluating a Canadian university EAP bridging program. <i>TESL Canada Journal</i> , 36(1), 97–120.
 <i>Questionnaires</i>	Davis, J. McE. (2011). <i>Using surveys for understanding and improving foreign language programs</i> . University of Hawai'i, National Foreign Language Resource Center. Available from: http://hdl.handle.net/10125/14549	Sommer-Farias, B., & Carvalho, A. (2023). Portuguese language program evaluation. In E. Heidrich Uebel, F. A. Kronenberg, & S. Sterling (Eds.), <i>Language program vitality in the United States</i> (pp. 167–170). Springer.
 <i>Interviews</i>	Patton, M. Q. (2015). <i>Qualitative research and evaluation methods</i> (4th ed.). Sage. See Chapter 7 (pp. 421–517) for discussion of different approaches to interviewing and helpful tips for asking clear questions.	Atar, C., Kir-Cullen, E., & Denki-Akkaş, F. (2020). An evaluation of the English preparatory program at İstanbul Medeniyet University. <i>Language Teaching and Educational Research (LATER)</i> , 3(1), 94–115.
 <i>Classroom Observations</i>	Wajnryb, R. (1992). <i>Classroom observation tasks: A resource book for language teachers and trainers</i> . Cambridge University Press.	Su, Y.-C. (2011). The effects of the cultural portfolio project on cultural and EFL learning in Taiwan's EFL college classes. <i>Language Teaching Research</i> , 15(2), 230–252.
 <i>Document Analysis</i>	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). (2018). Data collection methods for evaluation: Document review (No. 18). Available from https://www.wcasa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Evaluation_CDC-Evaluation-Briefs_Data-Collection-Methods-for-Evaluation_Document-Review.pdf	Peacock, M. (2009). The evaluation of foreign-language-teacher education programmes. <i>Language Teaching Research</i> , 13(3), 259–278.

Recommended Resource



Davis, J. M., & McKay, T. H. (Eds.). (2018). *A guide to useful evaluation of language programs*. Georgetown University Press.

This edited volume provides practical guidance and clear steps for language program evaluation from a utilization-based approach. Chapters focus on identifying users and developing evaluation questions as well as frequently used methodologies. Guidance is supported with extensive examples.