

Are Your Course-level Student Learning Outcomes S M A R T ?

**Student Focused:**

Do they ask what students will do, know, or value? Not- What will we teach?

Teacher focused:

Students will receive information about the 10 core concepts of....

Student focused:

Students will be able to list and compare the 10 core concepts of....

**Measurable:**

Do they ask for outcomes that can be seen and assessed in student work?

Vague SLO's are difficult to measure.

Vague:

Students should know about the major world religions.

Clearer:

Students will be able to summarize the foundational assumptions of the major world religions

**Action Oriented:**

Do they use action verbs from the mid to upper levels of Blooms Taxonomy?

analyze, classify, compare, relate, demonstrate, distinguish, summarize, conclude, explain, formulate, identify, synthesize, interpret, etc.

Avoid at all costs!: Students will understand, appreciate, become familiar with...

Not Action Focused:

Students will understand basic communication principles.

Action Focused:

Students will be able to demonstrate the basic principles of communication in an oral presentation.

**Reasonable:**

Are they appropriate within the purview of the course?

ie. Can the students really be expected to do that when they finish this course?

Unreasonable:

Upon completion of this course, students should understand all aspects of human behavior.

CAN ANYONE REALLY DO THAT?

More reasonable:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to classify the major theories of human behavior.

**Time Specific:**

Is there a clear expectation of when the students will be able to do, know, or value these things?

If we say "upon completion of this course," when do we really find out?

Each SLO should be assessed through the assignments/presentations/questions in the course.