

Action Verb List for Outcomes

Below are suggested verbs that may be used when creating student learning outcomes for a course or certificate/degree program. Verbs are categorized by thinking skills. Student learning outcomes state what students are able to do upon the completion of the course, certificate or degree.

Outcomes should reflect what students will be able to do “out there” in the world, not what they will do in the classroom. While a verb may be included in this suggested list, it does not mean that it is appropriate to use in all circumstances.

Knowledge	Comprehension	Application	Analysis	Synthesis	Evaluation
Appreciate	Associate	Add	Analyze	Categorize	Appraise
Count	Compute	Apply	Arrange	Combine	Assess
Define	Convert	Calculate	Breakdown	Compile	Compare
Describe	Defend	Change	Combine	Compose	Conclude
Draw	Discuss	Classify	Design	Create	Contrast
Identify	Distinguish	Complete	Detect	Drive	Criticize
Label	Estimate	Compute	Develop	Design	Critique
List	Explain	Demonstrate	Diagram	Devise	Determine
Match	Extend	Discover	Differentiate	Explain	Grade
Name	Extrapolate	Divide	Discriminate	Generate	Interpret
Outline	Generalize	Examine	Illustrate	Group	Judge
Point	Give examples	Graph	Infer	Integrate	Justify
Quote	Infer	Interpolate	Outline	Modify	Measure
Read	Paraphrase	Manipulate	Point out	Order	Rank
Recall	Predict	Modify	Relate	Organize	Rate
Recite	Rewrite	Operate	Select	Plan	Support
Recognize	Summarize	Prepare	Separate	Prescribe	Test
Record		Produce	Subdivide	Propose	
Repeat		Show	Utilize	Rearrange	
Reproduce		Solve		Reconstruct	
Select		Subtract		Relate	
State		Translate		Reorganize	
Write		Use		Revise	
				Rewrite	
				Specify	
				Summarize	
				Transform	

Action Verb List for Descriptions

Below are suggested verbs that may be used when writing course descriptions. Imagine that you are starting each sentence of the description with “This course ...” but do not include those words. For example, “This course explores the relationship between farming and weather patterns” would be written “Explores the relationship between farming and weather patterns.”

Acquaints	Discusses	Incorporates	Recreates
Addresses	Emphasizes	Increases	Refines
Analyzes	Empowers	Identifies	Relates
Applies	Encompasses	Illustrates	Researches
Appraises	Encourages	Integrates	Reviews
Assesses	Enhances	Interprets	Revolves around
Associates	Establishes	Introduces	Specializes
Builds	Evaluates	Investigates	Stresses
Communicates	Examines	Involves	Studies
Compares	Expands	Links	Supplements
Considers	Explains	Observes	Surveys
Contains	Explores	Offers	Targets
Continues	Exposes	Places	Theorizes
Covers	Familiarizes	Practices	Trains
Creates	Focuses	Prepares	Utilizes
Deepens	Forms	Presents	
Demonstrates	Gives	Provides	
Develops	Includes	Questions	