List of Measurable Verbs Used to Assess Learning Outcomes

**Bloom's Taxonomy of Educational Objectives (1956): Cognitive Skills**

A group of educators, led by Benjamin Bloom, identified a hierarchy of six categories of cognitive skills: knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation. As students learn, they start with the knowledge level and progress through the hierarchy. Thus, advanced courses should include skills at a higher level than introductory or basic skills courses. Below you will find a web-resource as well as a list of measurable verbs to assist you in writing course objectives and assess learning outcomes.


Knowledge Level: The successful student will recognize or recall learned information.

- list
- record
- underline
- state
- define
- arrange
- name
- relate
- describe
- tell
- recall
- memorize
- recall
- repeat
- recognize
- label
- select
- reproduce

Comprehension Level: The successful student will restate or interpret information in their own words.

- explain
- describe
- report
- translate
- express
- summarize
- identify
- classify
- discuss
- restate
- locate
- compare
- discuss
- review
- illustrate
- tell
- critique
- estimate
- reference
- interpret
- reiterate

Application Level: The successful student will use or apply the learned information.

- apply
- sketch
- perform
- use
- solve
- respond
- practice
- construct
- role-play
- demonstrate
- conduct
- execute
- complete
- dramatize
- employ

Analysis Level: The successful student will examine the learned information critically.

- analyze
- inspect
- test
- distinguish
- categorize
- critique
- differentiate
- catalogue
- diagnose
- appraise
- quantify
- extrapolate
- calculate
- measure
- theorize
- experiment
- relate
- debate

Synthesis Level: The successful student will create new models using the learned information.

- develop
- revise
- compose
- plan
- formulate
- collect
- build
- propose
- construct
- create
- establish
- prepare
- design
- integrate
- devise
- organize
- modify
- manage

Evaluation Level: The successful student will assess or judge the value of learned information.

- review
- appraise
- choose
- justify
- argue
- conclude
- assess
- rate
- compare
- defend
- score
- evaluate
- report on
- select
- interpret
- investigate
- measure
- support