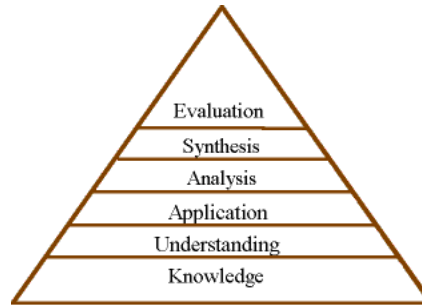


## Writing Student Learning Outcomes



**Definition:** Student learning outcomes describe what students are able to demonstrate in terms of knowledge, skills, and attitudes upon completion of a program.

**Note:** When writing learning outcomes, focus on **student behavior** and use simple, specific **action verbs** to describe what students are expected to demonstrate upon completion of a course or program. The wording should be something as follows:

**Students will be able to <action verbs to describe knowledge, skills, or attitude> . . .**

<i><b>ACTION VERBS</b></i>	
<i>Concrete verbs such as “define,” “apply,” or “analyze” are more helpful for assessment than verbs such as “be exposed to,” “understand,” “know,” “be familiar with.”</i>	
<b>Cognitive Learning</b>	<b>Examples of Action Verbs:</b>
Knowledge - to recall or remember facts without necessarily understanding them	articulate, define, indicate, name, order, recognize, relate, recall, reproduce, list, tell, describe, identify, show, label, tabulate, quote
Comprehension – to understand and interpret learned information	classify, describe, discuss, explain, express, interpret, contrast, associate, differentiate, extend, translate, review, suggest, restate
Application – to put ideas and concepts to work in solving problems	apply, compute, give examples, investigate, experiment, solve, choose, predict, translate, employ, operate, practice, schedule
Analysis – to break information into its components to see interrelationships	analyze, appraise, calculate, categorize, compare, contrast, criticize, differentiate, distinguish, examine, investigate, interpret
Synthesis – to use creativity to compose and design something original	arrange, assemble, collect, compose, construct, create, design, formulate, manage, organize, plan, prepare, propose, set up,
Evaluation – to judge the value of information based on established criteria	appraise, assess, defend, judge, predict, rate, support, evaluate, recommend, convince, conclude, compare, summarize
<b>Affective Learning</b>	appreciate, accept, attempt, challenge, defend, dispute, join, judge, praise, question, share, support

### **Examples of student learning outcomes:**

Students will be able to articulate the cultural and socioeconomic differences and the significance of these differences for instructional purposes.

Students will be able to collect and organize appropriate clinical data, apply principles of evidence-based medicine to determine clinical diagnoses, and formulate and implement acceptable treatment modalities.

Students will be able to critically analyze and evaluate current research.

Students will be able to explain the value of outcomes assessments in assuring quality across the profession and national borders.

Students will be able to identify ethical problems and defend a practical course of action that occurs in the accounting profession.

Students will be able to identify strengths and weakness in specific areas of their own researched writing.

Students will be able to apply standard social scientific methodological skills in a research paper.

Students will be able within a formal oral presentation to competently discuss social scientific methods they have used in their own research.

Students will be able to correctly apply and interpret basic quantitative measures of central tendency and association.