

Student Learning Outcomes



GeorgiaState
University

Why do we need learning outcomes?

- Practical
 - Examples of Degree Program-Level Student Learning Outcomes at GSU
 - From Office of Academic Assessment
- Pedagogical

Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

- **Undergraduate: Economics BA/BS/BBA**
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of basic theories, concepts, and analytical methods of microeconomics and macroeconomics.
- Students will apply theories, concepts, and analytical methods of microeconomics and macroeconomics to specific fields of economics.
- Students will identify the relevant benefits and costs to consider when comparing policy choices.
- Students will communicate, using appropriate writing and oral conventions, basic economic theories, concepts, analytical methods, and policy choices.

Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

- **Graduate: Social Work MSW**
- Students will evaluate and integrate multiple sources of knowledge, including research-based knowledge and practice-generated knowledge.
- Students will engage in community partnerships that are responsive to diversity and difference.
- Students will analyze how differential power and privilege shape communities and society
- Students will provide leadership skills in promoting changes to improve community wellbeing.
- Students will develop, monitor, and/or strengthen collaborative relationships that focus on building healthy communities.

College of Arts and Sciences Humanities

- **Undergraduate: English Literature BA**
- Students will be able to interpret figurative language, to identify literary and thematic patterns, to read for multiple meanings, to apply knowledge of conventions from different periods and genres, to read and use scholarly and theoretical works, and to evaluate critical arguments and construct alternative positions when necessary.
- Students will demonstrate an ability to use basic elements of writing (such as grammar, punctuation, diction, syntax, and organization).
- Students will demonstrate an awareness of the history, biographical, and/or literary context of a literary text.

College of Arts and Sciences Humanities

- **Graduate: Religious Studies MA**
- Students will understand the role religion has played historically in both popular and elite culture, to extrapolate a general working knowledge of at least four religious traditions and to synthesize an in depth knowledge of two traditions, e.g., Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Confucianism, Daoism, Shinto.
- Students will explain, critique, and apply principles of at least three theorists or thinkers in the academic study of religion, and demonstrate competence in major disciplinary concepts.
- Students will understand and apply at least two critical and methodological approaches to the study of religion.
- Students will read scholarly texts critically and with comprehension.

Course Objectives vs. Student Learning Outcomes

- **Objectives**
- describe the goals and intentions of the professor teaching the course.
- focus on content and skills important within the course or program, and might describe what the faculty will do.
- can often be numerous, specific, and detailed. Assessing and reporting on each objective for each student may be a challenge.

Course Objectives vs. Student Learning Outcomes

- **Outcomes**
- catalog the overarching "products" of the course and are the evidence that the goals or objectives were achieved.
- are statements that describe or list measurable and essential mastered content-knowledge—reflecting skills, competencies, and knowledge that students have achieved and can demonstrate upon successfully completing a course.

Course Objectives vs. Student Learning Outcomes

- **Outcomes con't**
- express higher-level thinking skills that integrate course content and activities and can be observed as a behavior, skill, or discrete useable knowledge upon completing the course.
- are exactly what assessments are intended to show -- specifically what the student will be able to do upon completing the course.