

OBJECTIVES and OUTCOMES

Course Objectives

Course objectives state the purpose and goals of the course. Objectives are the content specific knowledge and/or skills that enable a student to engage in a subject. They include knowledge-based content such as definitions, concepts, themes and facts. Objectives help create focus for the instructor and learners. Objectives are **not required** to be included on the Course Outline or course syllabi. Inclusion is at the originator's discretion.

Examples of Course Objectives:

- Students will gain familiarity with learning approaches connected to persuasive writing.
- Students will be acquainted with various types of business environments and current theories about what constitutes effective management in those environments.
- Students will explore moral, ethical and professional issues that are encountered in the criminal justice profession.

Course Outcomes

Course outcomes are an observable, measurable skill or body of knowledge, which a student should be able to demonstrate upon successful completion of a course. Each outcome should be specific, measurable, and written using behavioral verbs. Outcomes require higher level thinking which can be observed as a skill or a behavior. Outcomes are assessed to show what the student can do upon completion of the course. Outcomes guide teaching, learning and assessment. Course outcomes are **required** on both outline and syllabi.

Examples of Course Outcomes (CLO)s:

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Summarize reasons to write persuasively.
- Explain what constitutes effective management in a business environment.
- Analyze an issue or trend that helped to shape the criminal justice profession.

Note from HLC: The words: Goals, objectives and outcomes are used inconsistently across higher education in the context of assessment of student learning to the extent that one institution's goal may be another's outcome and vice versa. Criteria is indicated through context as to whether the term refers to the learning intended or how much student learn. At Waubensee, we use Outcomes to describe the assessment of student learning. The Illinois Articulation Panels (IAI) uses the term objective which in this context which is equivalent to our outcomes.

Institution Level Outcomes (ILO)s (which are our College's Learning Outcomes)

Institution Learning Outcomes are intellectual skills important to the success in education, careers, and in lifelong learning. The following five outcomes are the basis for learning assessment activities: critical thinking communication, quantitative literacy, information literacy and global awareness.

For more information on Institution Level Outcomes/College Level Outcomes:

<https://facultydae-edit.waubonsee.edu/instruction/assessment/institution-learning-outcomes>