

TIPS FOR DEVELOPING COURSE-LEVEL EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES STATEMENTS

- Limit the course-level expected learning outcomes to 5 – 10 statements for the entire course (more detailed outcomes can be developed for individual units, assignments, chapters, etc.).
- Focus on overarching or general knowledge and/or skills (rather than small or trivial details).
- Focus on knowledge and skills that are central to the course topic and/or discipline.
- Create statements that are student-centered rather than faculty-centered (e.g., “upon completion of this course students will be able to list the names of the 50 states” versus “one objective of this course is to teach the names of the 50 states”).
- Focus on the learning that *results* from the course rather than describing activities or lessons in the course.
- Incorporate or reflect the institutional and departmental missions.
- Incorporate various ways for students to show success (outlining, describing, modeling, depicting, etc.) rather than using a single statement such as “at the end of the course, students will know _____” as the stem for each expected outcome statement.