# University Studies Program GENERAL EDUCATION FOR THE 21st CENTURY

## **Writing Student Learning Outcomes**

A student learning outcome is a statement that describes what a student will *know* or be able to *do* after completing the course. When writing learning outcomes for your course(s), it is important to keep assessment in mind: each student learning outcome should contain an element that can be measured, either quantitatively or qualitatively. Specific, measurable verbs can be helpful. As you design or modify your course(s), you may wish to check the grading criteria for assignments and the components of the overall class grade with the student learning outcomes.

You may wish to consult "Bloom's Taxonomy Action Verbs" as you think about student learning outcomes: <a href="http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/cetl/docs/BloomsLevel.pdf">http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/cetl/docs/BloomsLevel.pdf</a>

Please also feel free to visit the following quick-and-easy guide to writing student learning outcomes on this site: <a href="http://uwf.edu/cutla/writingslo.cfm">http://uwf.edu/cutla/writingslo.cfm</a>

#### **Examples from UW Oshkosh Syllabi:**

A) sample from a syllabus submitted by Orlee Hauser, Sociology

#### **Learning Outcomes and Core Abilities**

After taking this course you should be able to:

- 1. Develop strategies to effectively relate with others who are different from you in an open and non-threatening way.
- 2. Identify and recognize how stereotypes are formed and how they influence how we perceive and interact with the world around us.
- 3. Understand the basic concepts and paradigms used in Sociology.
- 4. Understand more about the different cultural groups in both the U.S. and throughout the world
- 5. Use critical and creative thinking to solve problems, resolve conflicts, make decisions and complete tasks.
- 6. Carry out library research and write a basic literature review.
- 7. Work cooperatively in a team environment.
- 8. Communicate in ways that honor diversity.
- 9. Achieve insight into our own cultural rules and biases and achieve a complex understanding of cultural difference.

B) Sample learning outcomes related to the University Studies Program (a portion of the student learning outcomes from Bill Wresch's BUS 150 syllabus)

### **Program Learning Outcomes**

- Students will be able to describe the value of a *Liberal Education*.
- Students will become familiar with the expectations of a college-level education, the UW Oshkosh Essential Learning Outcomes, and the University Studies Program.
- Students will begin their acculturation to life at this university, developing familiarity with the academic resources and community engagement opportunities at UW Oshkosh.
- Students will engage in learning communities to enh
- ance their connections to the class, the university, and one another.
- Students will participate in campus and community life through co-curricular activities.
- Students will begin to take personal responsibility for their intellectual development by archiving learning artifacts in the ePortfolio