

Guide to Course Level Outcomes Assessment



Step 1 Identify and list the student learning GOALS for the class - what do you hope for your students?

Example: **Science Course**

- ✓ Goal 1: This course will examine xyz principles
- ✓ Goal 2: This course will use a variety of data sources to analyze xyz principles
- ✓ Goal 3: Students will be required to solve complex problems
- ✓ Goal 4: Lab exercises will provide the student with hands-on learning of xyz principles
- ✓ Goal 5: Graduates of this program will be able to transfer to a 4-year program

Step 2 Convert GOALS into OUTCOME STATEMENTS

Example: **Science Course**

Students will:

- ✓ Outcome 1: Demonstrate understanding of xyz principle
- ✓ Outcome 2: Be able to analyze data and solve problems
- ✓ Outcome 3: Use lab equipment appropriately
- ✓ Outcome 4: Successfully transfer to a 4-year institution

Step 3 Make OUTCOME STATEMENTS measurable

Outcome 1: Demonstrate understanding of xyz principles	80% of the students in SCIE 1000 taking the comprehensive final will answer questions 5, 10, 15, 20 correctly
Outcome 2: Be able to analyze data and solve problems	70% of students in SCIE 1500 will improve by 50% on the post-test
Outcome 3: Use lab equipment appropriately	90% of students will perform procedures 1 thru 5 on the lab practical exam correctly
Outcome 4: Successfully transfer to a 4-year institution	The GPA's of 80% of students exiting this program with x-number of credits in the program will be similar to the GPA's of non-transferring institutions at 4-year institutions

Step 4 Collect the data and analyze it

Example:

- ✓ Every year the data is collected from SCIE 1000 and SCIE 1500. The Director of Institutional Research provides data from 4-year institutions.
- ✓ The data shows that Outcomes 1, 3 and 4 were successfully reached.
- ✓ The data for Outcome 2 shows that only 68% of the students answered the questions correctly.
- ✓ The GPA's of 95% of students exiting this program with x-number of credits are better than those of non-transferring students at *University X* and *University Z* institutions.

Step 5 Use the information for curriculum and teaching development

Example:

- ✓ The data shows that Outcomes 1, 3, and 4 were successfully reached. We will apply these same outcomes for 2 more years in order to obtain a larger sample before making changes.
- ✓ The data for Outcome 2 shows that only 68% of the students answered the questions correctly. The curriculum will be modified to include more homework.