

SLO Verbs for Different Levels of Student Learning

Bloom et al identified a hierarchy of six categories of cognitive skills: knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation. As students learn, they start with the knowledge level and progress through the hierarchy. Advanced courses should include skills at a higher level than introductory or basic skills courses. Below is a list of measurable verbs to assist you in writing course objectives and assess learning outcomes. [Source](#).

Knowledge Level: The successful student will recognize or recall learned information.

list	record	underline	identify
state	define	Arrange	cite
name	relate	describe	label
tell	recall	memorize	select
recall	repeat	recognize	reproduce

Comprehension Level: The successful student will restate or interpret information in their own words.

explain	describe	report	convert
translate	express	summarize	arrange
identify	classify	discuss	reiterate
restate	locate	compare	interpret
discuss	review	illustrate	reference
tell	critique	estimate	

Application Level: The successful student will use or apply the learned information.

apply	sketch	perform	compute
use	solve	respond	change
practice	construct	role-play	employ
demonstrate	conduct	execute	dramatize
complete			

Analysis Level: The successful student will examine the learned information critically.

analyze	inspect	test	contrast
distinguish	categorize	critique	Break down
differentiate	catalogue	diagnose	debate
appraise	quantify	extrapolate	relate
calculate	measure	theorize	experiment

Synthesis Level: The successful student will create new models using the learned information.

develop	revise	compose	manage
plan	formulate	collect	modify
build	propose	construct	organize
create	establish	prepare	
design	integrate	devise	

Evaluation Level: The successful student will assess or judge the value of learned information.

review	appraise	choose	interpret
justify	argue	conclude	Judge
assess	rate	compare	support
defend	score	evaluate	measure
report on	select	interpret	investigate
investigate			