Writing Learning Objectives

*By knowing where you intend to go, you increase the chances of you and the learner ending up there...*

Main Purpose of Learning Objectives

- Objectives help **teachers**
  - communicate their expectations.
  - select essential content.
  - design appropriate activities and assessments.
- Objectives help **students**
  - understand what they should “get out of” and “put into” a course.
  - take useful notes.
  - study efficiently.

How to Write a Good Learning Objective

- Use clear words, especially **specific verbs**.
- If possible, include:
  - **Performance**: describe what is the learner expected to be able to do.
  - **Conditions**: describes the conditions under which a student is able to DO or perform the task.
  - **Criterion**: clarifies how well the students must perform the task.

Specific & Descriptive Verbs

Analyze, Assess, Calculate, Categorize, Classify, Compare, Compose, Construct, Contrast, Critique, Define, Demonstrate, Describe, Design, Diagram, Differentiate, Discuss, Distinguish, Estimate, Explain, Give Examples, Identify, Interpret, Justify, Label, List, Match, Organize, Prescribe, Propose, Rate, Revise

Examples

*At the end of this lecture, the student should be able to:*

- Describe three cell types and four signals in cancer immunosurveillance.
- Describe the pharmacokinetic parameters: *clearance, apparent volume of distribution, bioavailability,* and *half-life*.
- Explain how plasma drug concentration is dependent on the route and schedule of drug administration.
- Predict the growth and appearance of *E. coli, S. aureus* on MacConkey and Mannitol Salt agar.
- Contrast the pulse pressures in normal and common pathological conditions.