

IPE GUIDELINES ON CREATING LEARNING OBJECTIVES

These Guidelines have been developed to assist in the creation of learning objectives for a proposed IPE event.

Step 1: Describe the information, skills, behaviours, or perspectives participants in the session will acquire through attendance and participation

Step 2: Clearly identify the outcomes or actions participants can expect to demonstrate as a result of the educational experiences. See the list of action words, below.

Step 3: Write the learning objectives that relate to these outcomes and that reflect the content of the session. Objectives describe the behaviour of the learner and:

- Are stated clearly
- Define or describe an action
- Are measurable, in terms of time, space, amount, and/or frequency.

Domain	Emphasis	Relevant Verbs
Cognitive	Knowledge	Recall, identify, recognize, acquire, distinguish, state, define, name, list, label, reproduce, order
Cognitive	Comprehension	Translate, extrapolate, convert, interpret, abstract, transform, select, indicate, illustrate, represent, formulate, explain, classify, comprehend
Cognitive	Application	Apply, sequence, carry out, solve, prepare, operate, generalize, plan, repair, explain, predict, demonstrate, instruct, compute, use, perform, implement, employ, solve
Cognitive	Analysis	Analyze, estimate, compare, observe, detect, classify, discover, discriminate, explore, distinguish, catalog, investigate, breakdown, order, determine, differentiate, dissect, contrast, examine, interpret
Cognitive	Synthesis	Write, plan, integrate, formulate, propose, specify, produce, organize, theorize, design, build, systematize, combine, summarize, restate, argue, discuss, derive, relate, generalize, conclude, produce
Cognitive	Evaluation	Evaluate, verify, assess, test, judge, rank, measure, appraise, select, check, judge, justify, evaluate, determine, support, defend, criticize, weigh, assess
Affective		Agree, avoid, support, participate, cooperate, praise, help, offer, join
Psychomotor		Adjust, repair, taste, bend, measure, perform, operate, use, move

AVOID: verbs that are difficult to measure objectively. The following verbs are difficult to assess, thus should be used with caution:

Know	Understand	Familiarize	Be aware
Comprehend	Appreciate	Study	Become acquainted with
Gain knowledge of	Cover	Learn	Realize

Review Checklist:

- ☐ Does the learning objective stem from a course goal or objective?
- ☐ Is the learning objective measurable?
- ☐ Does the learning objective target one specific aspect of expected performance?
- ☐ Is the learning objective student-centred?
- ☐ Does the learning objective utilize an effective, action verb that targets the desired level of performance?
- ☐ Do learning objectives measure a range of educational outcomes?
- ☐ Does the learning objective match instructional activities and assessment?
- ☐ Does the learning objective specify appropriate conditions for performance?
- ☐ Is the learning objective written in terms of observable, behavioral outcomes?

Reference: Mandernach, B. (2003). Writing Quality Learning Objectives. Retrieved July 12, 2012
[Park University Faculty Development Quick Tips.](#)