

Developing Program Outcomes

BYUH Office of Planning, Institutional Research, Assessment & Testing

Step 1 – Develop Overview/Context

- Review the University’s mission statement (Identify core values of the University – see <http://www.byuh.edu/about/mission.jsp>)
- Review/refine your mission statement (Identify core values of your department/major program)
- What core knowledge, values, attitudes and/or abilities do graduates need to be successful when they leave BYUH?
- How can my department best support student learning?

Step 2 – Brainstorm

- Review department assessment plans (the current “short” list of outcome statements)
- List all the course objectives from each course within the program by collecting all syllabi
- Search the Web for universities with similar majors/programs (*see examples below*)
- For professional programs, review requirements by accrediting organizations
- Browse course textbooks for samples of learning outcomes or objective statements (often listed at the beginning of the chapters)

Step 3 – Refine

- Refine and prioritize your “long” list of outcomes with department faculty
- Look at samples to help refine outcome statement wording
- *For examples, see Writing Effective Outcomes*
<http://w3.byuh.edu/about/pair/accreditation/forms/WritingOutcomesEffectively.pdf>
- Effective outcomes focus on the impact that our activities, goals and decisions will have on student learning and/or the support for this learning process.
- It is suggested that each major program should have at least 8-15 well developed major/program outcome statements

Step 4 – Finalize

- Review long list of outcomes with the Dean of your School/College
- Submit each major program outcomes list to Bill Neal no later than January 21 for inclusion in the 2005-2007 University’s Catalog (which will be used during our accreditation visits)

Major/Program Outcome Resources & Examples

- <http://assessment.gmu.edu/programgoals/index.cfm>
- <http://www.longwood.edu/assessment/Majors2002.htm>
- <http://www.colorado.edu/sacs/catalog03-04/cs.html?s=11-6-2-0>
- <http://www.ksu.edu/apr/majorfield/index.htm>
- <http://www2.boisestate.edu/iassess/outcomes/outcomes.htm>
- <http://web.bsu.edu/IRAA/AA/WB/chapter2.htm>
- <http://www.academics.calpoly.edu/assessment/assessplanguide.htm>
- <http://w3.byuh.edu/about/pair/accreditation/assessment.htm>
- <http://its.foxvalleytech.com/frc/assessment/pro-outcomes.htm>
- <http://cai.cc.ca.us/SLOWworkshops/Strand2/index.htm>
- <http://www.ilstu.edu/~ddhesse/wpa/positions/outcomes.htm>
- <http://www.tamu.edu/qep/outcomes.html>
- <http://www.ncgia.ucsb.edu/education/curricula/giscc/units/format/outcomes.html>
- http://www.depts.washington.edu/grading/slo/designing_outcomes.htm
- <http://www.calpress.com/outcome.html>
- <http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/UPA/assmt/resource.htm>