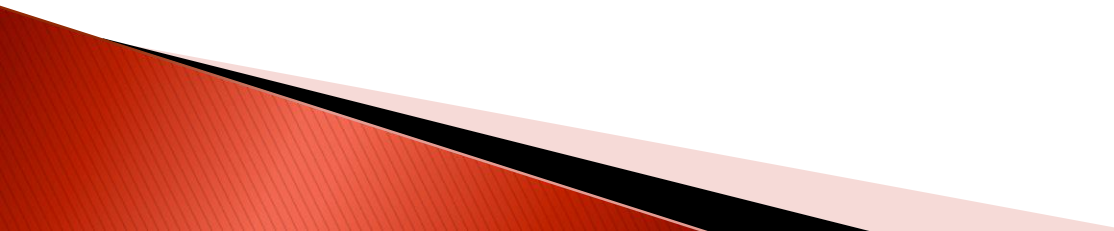# Revise Your SLOs and Simplify Assessments

Presented by:
Debbie Newcomb
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SLO – Student Learning Outcome

Levels of knowledge, skills, and abilities that a student attains from their learning experience
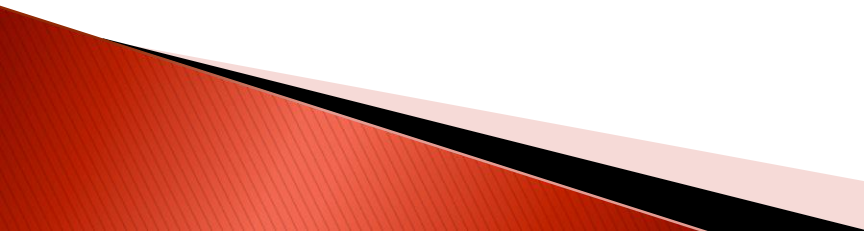
Types of SLOs

- ISLO
  - Institutional Student Learning Outcome
- PSLO
  - Program Student Learning Outcome
- CSLO
  - Course Student Learning Outcome

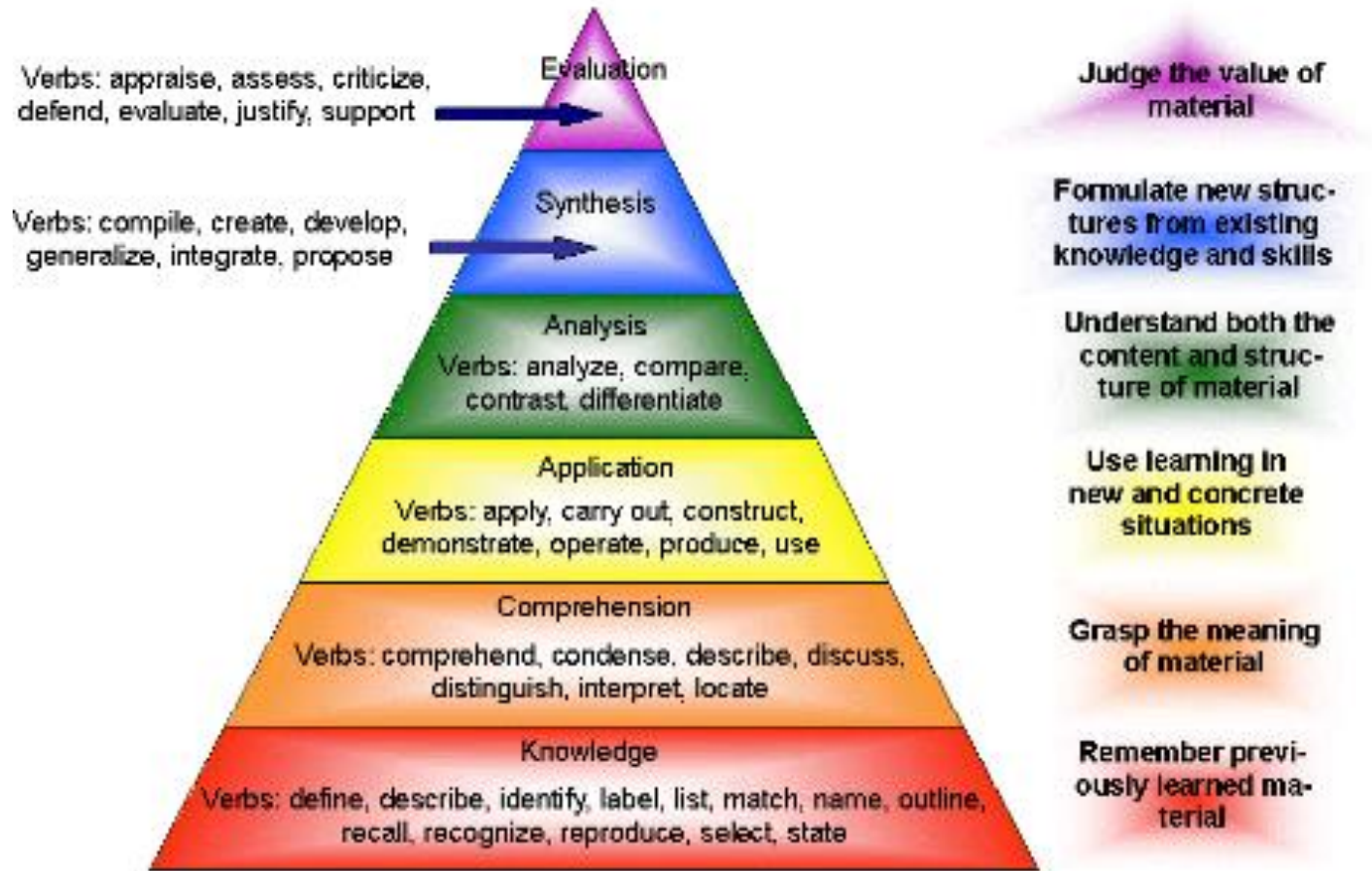# What should SLOs contain?

- Begins with: **Students will be able to** . . .

- Concise statements of what we want students to:
  - **Know/Understand**
    - Content: facts, theories, concepts
    - Values: open-mindedness, ethics, social responsibility
  - **Be able to do**
    - Skills: computational, collaborative, communication, occupational, creativity, etc.

What should SLOs contain? (cont)

- Not too many components
- Must be measurable
- Must use specific verbs – Bloom's taxonomy
  - Words not allowed: know & understand
  - Consider higher level verbs: identify, create, compare, differentiate, etc.
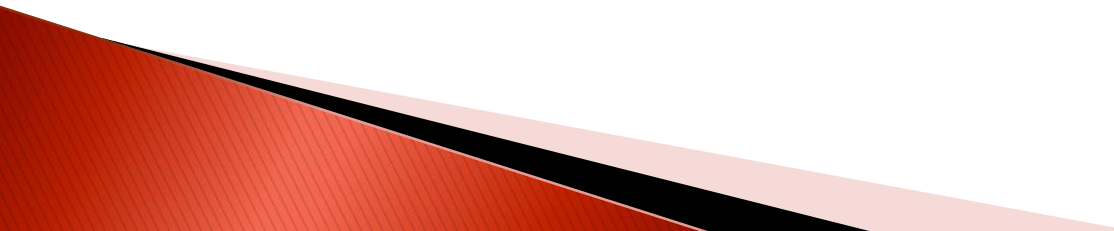
Bloom's Taxonomy

Verbs: appraise, assess, criticize, defend, evaluate, justify, support → **Evaluation** — Judge the value of material

Verbs: compile, create, develop, generalize, integrate, propose → **Synthesis** — Formulate new structures from existing knowledge and skills

Analysis
Verbs: analyze, compare, contrast, differentiate — Understand both the content and structure of material

Application
Verbs: apply, carry out, construct, demonstrate, operate, produce, use — Use learning in new and concrete situations

Comprehension
Verbs: comprehend, condense, describe, discuss, distinguish, interpret, locate — Grasp the meaning of material

Knowledge
Verbs: define, describe, identify, label, list, match, name, outline, recall, recognize, reproduce, select, state — Remember previously learned material

6 Levels in the Cognitive Domain of the Taxonomy   Information at each level

Ask Yourself . . .

- What skills and knowledge is a course intended to develop?
- What types of assignments will allow students to demonstrate accomplishment of a desired student learning outcome?
- What skills and knowledge does an assignment help develop?
- What student learning outcomes does an assignment address?

Types of Authentic Assessments

‣ How well did students learn what we wanted?

‣ Assessment tools:

* Exams
* Essays
* Case studies
* Presentations
* Journals
* Reports

* Industry exams
* Group projects
* Individual Projects
* Performances
* Artwork
* Critiques of articles, works, etc.

So How Do You Simplify?

- Mapping!
- Map your coursework to the SLOs.
  - Class work
  - Projects
  - Tests/quizzes
  - Homework
  - Presentations
  - Written papers

If the work you assign and content on which you test does not lead to at least one outcome, why do you do it?

Which map to the SLO?

SLO: *Students will be able to design and generate documents using Microsoft Word.*

Assignments:

1. Create a formal letter
2. Create a business flyer for a sale with product pictures
3. Create an Access database of customers & vendors
4. Create a table of products & their vendors
5. Create an Excel spreadsheet of products & prices
6. Test on key features in Word
7. Create an employee policies manual with a Table of Contents, pictures, table of work schedules, and work policies

Which would best assess the SLO?

SLO: *Students will be able to design and generate documents using Microsoft Word.*

Assignments:

1. Create a formal letter
2. Create a business flyer for an upcoming sale with pictures
3. Create a memo to employees
4. Create a table of products & their vendors
5. Create an Excel spreadsheet of products & prices
6. Test on key features in Word
7. Create an employee policies manual with a Table of Contents, pictures, table of work schedules, and work policies

Authentic Assessments (cont)

- Requires effective rubrics
- Give rubrics to students
  - Illustrates expectations

Contact Us for Assistance

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Curriculum Mapping of Assignments to SLOs Worksheet

Student Learning Outcome (SLO)	Key Assignments and Activities		
	Introduced	**Practiced**	**Mastered**
	Assignment/activity: How does this assignment/activity help students learn the SLO?	Assignment/activity: How does this assignment/activity help students practice the SLO concepts?	Assignment/activity: How does this assignment/activity help students demonstrate mastery of the SLO concepts?
	Assignment/activity: How does this assignment/activity help students learn the SLO?	Assignment/activity: How does this assignment/activity help students practice the SLO concepts?	Assignment/activity: How does this assignment/activity help students demonstrate mastery of the SLO concepts?

Adapted from: https://atl.wsu.edu/documents/2015/03/curriculum-mapping.pdf

Curriculum Mapping of Assignments to CSLOs & PSLOs Worksheet

Key assignments or activities that address the course SLOs	Which CSLO (Course SLOs does it contribute to?	Which Program SLO'S does it contribute to, if any?	What level of emphasis? (Introduced, practiced, or mastered)?

Adapted from: https://atl.wsu.edu/documents/2015/03/curriculum-mapping.pdf

SAMPLE CURRICULUM MAP OF ASSIGNMENTS TO SLOs				
SLO	**Assignment/Homework**	**Project/Presentation**	**Test/Quiz**	
CSLO-1				
CSLO-2				
CSLO-3				
Instructions: Enter your CSLOs in the SLO column. In the other columns, list assignments, projects, exams, etc. that <u>contribute or practice the concepts that lead</u> to that outcome.				
Then decide which item most accurately assesses whether the student has met the SLO. Use that as your assessment tool/method.				