

## Student Learning Outcomes, Course Objectives and the Syllabus

### Senate Proposal Passed By Vote (Senate Council Meeting, 11.17.06)

“To comply with the Accreditation Standards the Academic Senate Council recommends that faculty ensure statements consistent with their course student learning objectives are in their syllabi by Spring 2008.”

#### Question:

Clarification about the "outcomes & objectives" which are listed in our course outlines, as they relate to our individual syllabi. Is it a state regulation that we have to list (verbatim) the course "outcomes & objectives" on our syllabi? Is this a recommendation or requirement? Can a paraphrased – condensed version be used in the syllabi?

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#### Answer:

- The syllabus belongs to the individual faculty and is the appropriate place for outcomes – or anything else that the individual faculty member determines as relevant. In fact, the state does not dictate to faculty regarding syllabi, however, this issue comes up in the accreditation standards. See the following:
- ‘Section II.A.6 of the 2002 standards states, "In every class section students receive a course syllabus that specifies learning objectives [emphasis added] consistent with those in the institution’s officially approved course outline." This section of the COR is titled outcomes and objectives.
- SLOs should be on the course syllabus but do NOT have to be verbatim from the COR, they just have to be "consistent" with them. A statement by the instructor encompassing the types of knowledge, themes, skills, etc. that a student will learn in the course would be ok as long as it was consistent with the COR.

#### Want Assistance? Have Questions?

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For more information including a PowerPoint presentation on SLOs, go to the Academic Senate Council website, [www.ccsenate.org](http://www.ccsenate.org)