Writing Learning Objectives for MAS/CAS Approval

Generally, learning objectives are written in terms of learning *outcomes*: What do you want your students *to learn* as a result of the lesson? Follow the three-step process below for creating learning objectives:

1. Create a stem.

Examples—

After completing the lesson, the student will be able to ...

After this unit, the student will have ...

By completing the activities, the student will ...

At the conclusion of the course/unit/study, the student will ...

2. After you create the stem, add a verb.

Examples—analyze, recognize, compare, provide, list, etc.

For a list of action verbs, see chart below. This list is just a small sampling of action verbs.

3. Once you have a stem and a verb, determine the actual product, process, or outcome.

Sample.

After completing this lesson, the student will be able to recognize foreshadowing in various works of literature.

Action Verbs for Learning Objectives

A bstract	Convert	G eneralize	Prepare	Select
Activate	Coordinate		Prescribe	Separate
Acquire	Count	I dentify	Produce	Sequence
Adjust	Criticize	Illustrate	Propose	Sing
Analyze	Critique	Implement		Sketch
Appraise		Improve	Q uestion	Simplify
Arrange	D ebate	Increase		Skim
Articulate	Decrease	Infer	R ank	Solve
Assemble	Define	Integrate	Rate	Specify
Assess	Demonstrate	Interpret	Read	State
Assist	Describe	Introduce	Recall	Structure
Associate	Design	Investigate	Recommend	Summarize
	Detect		Recognize	Supervise
B reakdown	Develop	J udge	Reconstruct	Survey
Build	Differentiate		Record	Systematize
	Direct	Limit	Recruit	
Calculate	Discuss	List	Reduce	T abulate
Carry out	Discover	Locate	Reflect	Test
Catalog	Distinguish		Relate	Theorize
Categorize	Draw	M aintain	Remove	Trace
Change	Dramatize	Manage	Reorganize	Track
Check		Modify	Repair	Train
Cite	Employ		Repeat	Transfer
Classify	Establish	N ame	Replace	Translate
Collect	Estimate		Report	
Combine	Evaluate	O bserve	Reproduce	U pdate
Compare	Examine	Operate	Research	Use
Compute	Explain	Order	Restate	Utilize
Contrast	Explore	Organize	Restructure	
Complete	Express		Revise	V erbalize
Compose	Extrapolate	P erform	Rewrite	Verify
Compute		Plan		Visualize
Conduct	F ormulate	Point	S chedule	
Construct		Predict	Score	W rite