Where can I find SLOs for the course I am teaching?

Student learning outcomes are the most important part of the learning experience at West. The process of evaluating students against outcomes is something that all faculty must be fully engaged in and that is why it is so crucial that you know what the specific outcomes for your division and courses are.

Locate SLOs in ECD.

SLOs are located in the Course Outline of Record in the ECD (Electronic Curriculum Development System). ECD can be accessed at [https://ecd.laccd.edu/](https://ecd.laccd.edu/). Once you click on “Find a Course” you will be able to view the official Course Outline of Record.

What should I include in my syllabus?

1. List SLOs in your syllabus.
   In Section II of ECD, locate and copy the approved Student Learning Outcomes (course, program, and institutional) which must be included on your syllabus. Listing the SLOs on your syllabus is now part of your evaluation. See appendix C of the AFT contract.

2. Include the assessment method.
   In your syllabus, be sure to include the assessment method (for example exam, quiz, paper, project) for the SLO(s) you will be assessing in your class.

What are Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)?

Student learning outcomes (SLOs) are the overarching, specific observable or measurable results students are expected to achieve. These outcomes may involve knowledge (cognitive), skills (behavioral), or attitudes (affective) that provide evidence that learning has occurred as a result of a specified course, program activity, or process.

SLOs describe a student’s ability to synthesize many discrete skills using higher level thinking skills and to produce something that asks them to apply what they’ve learned. SLOs usually encompass a collective gathering of smaller discrete course objectives through analysis, evaluation and synthesis into more sophisticated skills and abilities.

In the classroom, the 2002 Accreditation Standards require that SLOs become an integral part of every syllabus. SLOs should also act as a guide for classroom activities and direct classroom assessments or evaluations. Remember that the course outline of record is the approved outline that faculty must adhere/teach to. So a course SLO that is listed in the outline is the SLO that will need to be listed in the syllabus for any and all sections of the same course.

At West, there are three levels of SLOs. They are Institutional SLOs, Program SLOs, and Course SLOs. In addition, Service Learning Outcomes have been established in Student Services, and Service Area Outcomes (SAOs) are defined in Administrative Services.

Why assess Student Learning Outcomes?

Assessment is a process that generates continuous improvement by reviewing evidence to demonstrate student learning and identifying areas for improvements to courses. We assess to improve teaching and student learning. It is a process that allows us to formalize what we already do and continue to build on what we’ve put in place.

SLO assessment is an opportunity to think about what we’re doing, reflect on how we can do it better, engage in dialogue with each other, and document results. SLO assessment will take place toward the end of the fall 2012 semester. Changes as a result of assessment will be implemented in the spring 2013 semester.

It’s also important for all faculty members and classified staff to understand the connection of outcomes and the college planning cycle. As a result of assessment, goals and action plans are identified and resource requests are made in the Program Review process in service and instructional areas.
SLO Bulletin

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES | WEST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE | FALL 2012 | SLO COMMITTEE

**timeline**

SLO Assessment Cycle 2012-2013

**before semester**

- Ensure SLOs are included on your SYLLABUS (see yellow bar on front page for information on where to locate your course SLOs).
- Submit SYLLABUS with SLOs listed to Academic Affairs.

**during semester**

- Conduct SLO course assessment.
- Submit course SLO assessment information to SLO Coordinator.
- Discuss changes as a result of assessment.

**next semester**

- Implement changes as a result of assessment.
- Reassess course SLO(s) to determine how changes implemented affected student learning.

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**SLO Cycle**

The SLO Cycle allows faculty to see data to answer questions like “At what rate do students achieve the outcome? What do we want them to learn or perform (higher-level thinking) to prepare them for the next-level classes they will be taking?” The cycle also allows us to make changes in information delivery, teaching methods (pedagogy), service delivery, assessment method, or the outcome itself to further student learning.

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**Locating Outcomes Information**

SLO information can be located at [www.wlac.edu/slo](http://www.wlac.edu/slo). Click on the links below to view SLOs information specific to outcome level or area.

- **Program SLOs** - [http://www.wlac.edu/slo/program_slos.html](http://www.wlac.edu/slo/program_slos.html)
- **Service Level Outcomes**
  - Student Services - [http://www.wlac.edu/slo/stud_svcs_slos.html](http://www.wlac.edu/slo/stud_svcs_slos.html)
- **Service Areas Outcomes**
  - Administrative Services - [http://www.wlac.edu/slo/documents/est_SAOs.pdf](http://www.wlac.edu/slo/documents/est_SAOs.pdf)

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**SLO Hours** - Drop in for assistance in developing your course SLOs.

- Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00-3:00 pm | CE-226
- Contact Todd Matosic to schedule another time convenient for you.

The SLO Committee reports to the Academic Senate through the Curriculum Committee.

The SLO Committee meets on the fourth Thursday of the month from 1:00 to 2:30 pm in Winlock.

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West Los Angeles College provides a transformative educational experience.