

Samples of Program Learning Objectives – San Diego State University

(see http://dus.sdsu.edu/assessment/department_learning_goals.pdf)

College of Arts and Letters

Africana Studies

Goal 1 Demonstrate a thorough knowledge of African culture and worldview.

Objective 1.1 Explain the major principles and values of Africana worldview and culture.

Objective 1.2 Explain the major moral, philosophical and ethical elements of Africana worldview and culture.

Objective 1.3 Explain the role of Africana worldview in contemporary society.

Classics and Humanities

Goal 1 Develop critical faculties to describe literary and artistic form and content, to interpret meaning, and to gauge effect.

Objective 1.1 Apply sound rhetorical principles to argumentation and discussion.

Objective 1.2 Distinguish between literal and figurative expression and between sound logic and fallacy.

Economics

Goal 1 Develop the ability to explain core economic terms, concepts and theories.

Objective 1.1 Explain supply, demand, and the function of markets and prices as allocative mechanisms.

Objective 1.2 Apply the concept of equilibrium at the macro and micro economic levels.

Objective 1.3 Identify key macroeconomic indicators and measures of economic changes and growth.

Objective 1.4 Identify and discuss the key concepts underlying international trade and international financial flows.

Objective 1.5 Assess the role of both domestic and international institutions and laws in shaping different economic outcomes, especially in the context of market-based economies.

European Studies

Goal 1 Illustrate knowledge of the cultural history of Europe.

Objective 1.1 Compare the origins of a specific cultural manifestation in two or more European countries.

Objective 1.2 Differentiate among the diverse cultures that form modern Europe.

Objective 1.3 Interpret differing perspectives on European unity.

Linguistics & Oriental Languages

Goal 1 Demonstrate the ability to think critically, reason logically, and comprehend scholarly writing on a linguistic topic.

Objective 1.1 Produce academic papers synthesizing notions from topics in linguistics.

Objective 1.2 Articulate similarities and differences across different theoretical positions in linguistics.

Women's Studies

Goal 1 Understand the intersectionality of different dimensions of social organization gender, race, class, culture, etc) as concepts and as lived experience.

Objective 1.1 Articulate a way of looking at the world from the standpoint of diverse women nationally and internationally.

Objective 1.2 Discuss the way that gender is shaped by race, class, and culture.

Objective 1.3 Identify ways that people negotiate and represent multiple identities.

College of Business Administration

School of Accountancy

Goal 1 Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of accounting regulation, including application of income taxation and assurance standards.

Objective 1.1 Analyze, research, implement, and report on federal income tax provisions in the context of planning and compliance decisions.

Objective 1.2 Analyze, research, implement, and report assurance (attestation and audit) standards in audit planning, audit program design and implementation, and accountants' reporting for the major types of engagements.

Financial Services

Goal 1 Understand consumer financial needs and the mechanism available for fulfilling their needs.

Objective 1.1 Describe the various financial products, services and strategies offered by a variety of financial services institutions.

Objective 1.2 Evaluate financial products and strategies offered by a variety of financial services institutions for suitability and appropriateness in meeting consumer needs.

Objective 1.3 Prepare a plan for efficient wealth creation and management including planning for cash and debt management, investing, insurance, retirement, education needs, incapacity, and efficient wealth transfer.

Goal 2 Understand the role of technology and the legal, ethical and economic environment as it relates to financial services.

Objective 2.1 Analyze the impact of tax and pension law on various financial decisions including accumulation and transfer of wealth.

Objective 2.2 Identify conflicts of interest between market participants and between principal and agent.

Objective 2.3 Evaluate the economic environment and the impact of governmental economic policies on consumers and financial services firms.

Objective 2.4 Describe the impact that financial innovation, advances in technology, and changes in regulations has had on the structure of the financial services industry.

Masters of Business Administration

Goal 1 Develop a solid foundation in theoretical concepts and managerial skills needed to lead business organizations.

Objective 1.1 Apply concepts and decision models in organizational behavior, finance, economics, marketing, and production to make business decisions.

Objective 1.2 Employ methods of financial and cost accounting and statistical data analysis to support business decision-making.

Goal 2 Develop an awareness of the domestic and global economic, legal, ethical, and technological environment in which managers make and implement decisions.

Objective 2.1 Identify and critically analyze salient legal and moral business issues.

Objective 2.2 Evaluate the impact that changes in the domestic and global economic environment have on the business climate.

Objective 2.3 Analyze the impact that technological and product innovations have on the competitiveness of firms.

College of Education

Postsecondary Education Leadership Program

Goal 1 Describe and evaluate the major theories of adult learning and select a theory(ies) upon which to build practice in a postsecondary environment.

Objective 1.1 Recognize the major adult developmental stages affecting learning.

Objective 1.2 Design a lesson, unit, or program taking into account adult developmental tasks associated with one or more stages.

Objective 1.3 Construct a philosophy about adult learning and teaching adults utilizing adult learning theories.

College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts

Child and Family Development

Goal 1 Understand family dynamics and interaction across the life span.

Objective 1.1 Discuss theories of family dynamics throughout the life span.

Objective 1.2 Explain the dynamics of prevention and treatment in families.

Objective 1.3 Apply family theories to contemporary and ethnically diverse families.

College of Sciences

Biology Department

Goal 1 Explain the interactions of organisms with their environments and with each other.

Objective 1.1 Describe ecosystems as existing of populations of organisms plus physical characteristics, nutrient cycles, energy flow and controls.

Objective 1.2 Explain how populations of the same and different species interact dynamically in communities.

Objective 1.3 Propose one or more hypotheses that plausibly suggest how species can play similar roles and co-exist in a community.

Goal 2 Explain the process of natural selection and how it contributes to the formation of species and biodiversity.

Objective 2.1 Compare the modes of sorting for biological variation, including natural selection, random drift and sexual selection.

Objective 2.2 Explain how genes, chromosomes and alleles are related to one another, and compare their roles in the transmission of genetic information.

Objective 2.3 Propose one or more hypotheses that plausibly suggest mechanisms for changing gene frequencies within and among populations.

Goal 3 Explain the mechanisms by which biomolecules assemble and function to form uni- and multicellular organisms.

Objective 3.1 Describe the structural characteristics and mechanisms of assembly of the main categories of biomolecules (nucleic acids, proteins and lipids), and how each group of biomolecules contributes to cellular structure and function.

Objective 3.2 Explain prokaryotic and eukaryotic cellular structures, and their functions, and discuss the ways in which prokaryotic cells exist in their environments, and the ways in which eukaryotic cells contribute to tissue and organ structure and function.

Objective 3.3 Discuss cellular energetics by describing the processes of glycolysis, oxidative phosphorylation, photosynthesis, the flow of carbon amongst these processes, and how the chemical energy resulting from the process is used to support life at the cellular level.

Psychology

Goal 1 Understand the developmental, cognitive, social, and biological bases of normal and abnormal/maladaptive behavior.

Objective 1.1 Explain the roles of persons and situations as causes of behavior.

Objective 1.2 Explain the nature-nurture controversy, and cite supportive findings from different areas of psychology for each side.

Goal 2 Understand the process of psychological inquiry, including the formulation of hypotheses and the methods and designs used to test hypotheses.

Objective 2.1 Formulate scientific questions using operational definitions.

Objective 2.2 Demonstrate familiarity with the concepts and techniques of testing hypotheses.