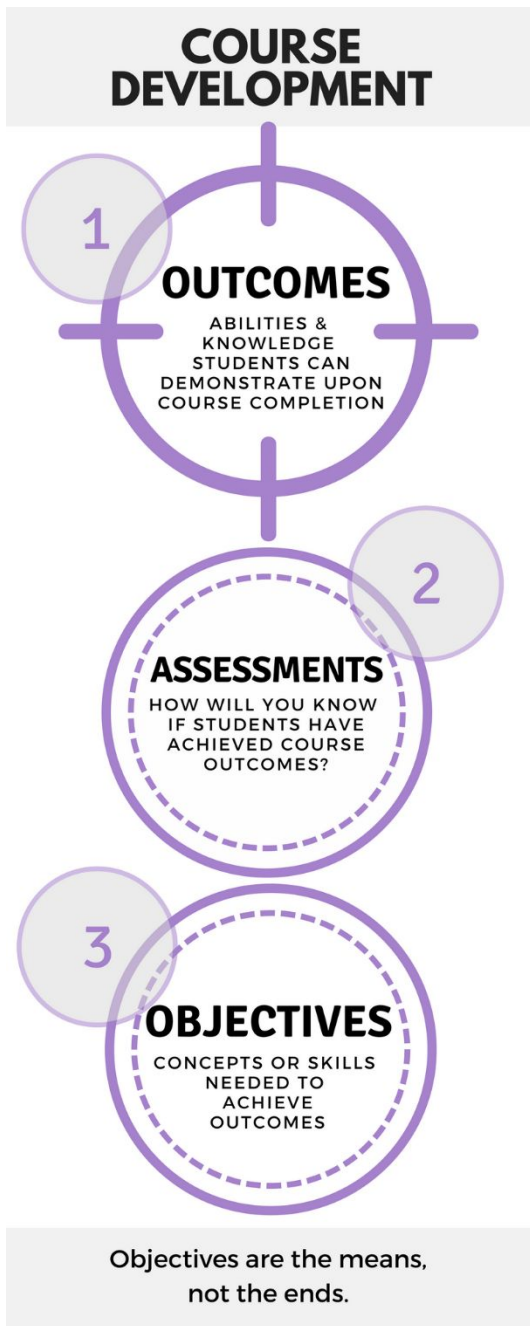


DEVELOPING OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE COR & SYLLABUS

"One of the most significant aspects of a COR is the inclusion of student learning outcomes (SLOs). SLOs can be a driver of many, if not all, elements of a course outline of record." [Academic Senate for California Community Colleges](#)



DEFINITIONS - adapted from the [Academic Senate for California Community Colleges Curriculum Guide](#)

OUTCOMES: Outcomes are the measurable knowledge, skills and abilities that students are able to demonstrate subsequent to completing a course or program (as opposed to objectives which are discrete skills and concepts students should learn in order to meet course outcomes). Each course and program should have at least two measurable student learning outcomes.

OBJECTIVES: Course Objectives state the concepts or skills introduced in the course in order to prepare students to meet course, program, or institutional student learning outcomes. Objectives are the means, not the ends.

- The objectives of a course are the primary components and skills leading to student achievement and the course's intended purpose.
- The objectives should specify these components and skills to ensure that all faculty delivering the course share a common understanding and can therefore enable students to achieve the intended student learning outcomes across all sections and terms in which the course is taught.
- Objectives should be written in complete sentences or comprehensive phrases using language that is discipline specific and demonstrates the level of rigor appropriate for the class.

DEVELOPING COURSE OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

Try using a [backwards design approach](#) to writing and assessing course outcomes and objectives.

1. Decide what students should be able to know, think or do upon completion of the course. These are the course **outcomes**.
2. Determine the **assessments** and performance tasks students will complete in order to demonstrate outcomes.
 - a. How will you know if students have achieved the course outcomes?
 - b. What will you accept as evidence of student understanding and proficiency?
2. Identify the knowledge and skills needed to meet the course outcomes. These are the course **objectives**.
 - a. Plan instructional strategies and learning activities to help students accomplish objectives and achieve course outcomes.