

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes articulate the knowledge, skills, attitudes, competencies, and habits of mind students are expected to acquire from an academic or co-curricular experience.

- Program learning outcomes (PLOs) are articulated and assessed in degrees and certificates.
- Student learning outcomes (SLOs) are articulated and assessed in courses.
- Co-curricular learning outcomes are articulated and assessed in co-curricular experiences.
- High Impact Practice (HIP) learning outcomes are articulated and assessed in HIPs.

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## Program Learning Outcomes

- Program learning outcomes (PLOs) should be transparent to administrators, faculty, and students.
- Programs typically have 3-7 PLOs, although some programs have more required by specialized accreditors.
- Program learning outcomes are identical across all program delivery modes and locations (on campus, online, Indpls. location) to ensure the rigor and quality are consistent regardless of modality, location or other differentiating factors.
- Each fall, program assessment reports are submitted to the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs.

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## Student Learning Outcomes

- Student learning outcomes (SLOs) appear on all primary syllabi and on all course syllabi.
- Courses typically have 3-7 SLOs, although some courses have more required by specialized accreditors.
- The SLOs are identical across all sections of the same course, regardless of delivery mode or location (on campus, online, dual credit) to ensure the rigor and quality are consistent across all sections.
- For each course, the SLOs listed in the primary syllabus must be listed in the course syllabus.
- Ball State's Gen Ed (UCC) SLOs align with the Indiana College Core (ICC) SLOs.

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## Co-Curricular Learning Outcomes

- Co-curricular experiences are an extension of formal curricular experiences and allow students to explore their strengths and talents outside the classroom.
- Some co-curricular experiences are embedded in academic programs, while others are offered outside academic programs.
- Co-curricular learning outcomes are defined by the unit offering the experience, and the process by which the outcomes are assessed is tailored to the experience itself.
- The Office of Student Affairs has an established process for assessing and reporting their co-curricular outcomes.
- Assessment of co-curricular outcomes helps improve the quality of the experiences and the effectiveness of resources used to provide the experiences.

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## HIPs Learning Outcomes

- Ball State gathers institutional assessment data on the "core four" HIPs outlined in the strategic plan:
  - Undergraduate Research
  - Study Abroad/Study Away
  - Immersive Learning
  - Culturally and Intellectually Diverse Perspectives
- Two predetermined HIPs SLOs supplement existing course SLOs.
- HIP courses are tagged in Banner to help students find HIP courses, to track student participation in HIPs, and to disseminate HIPs assessment instruments to faculty.
- Assessment of the two predetermined HIPs SLOs helps improve the quality of student learning and experiences, and helps measure the effectiveness of resources used to provide HIPs.

### HLC Criterion 3.A.

The institution maintains learning goals and outcomes that reflect a level of rigor commensurate with college-level work, including by program level and the content of each of its educational programs.