

Program Assessment Glossary

<u>Program</u>: A combination of courses that constitutes a clearly defined field of study, as outlined by Weatherford College, and leads to the awarding of an officially approved certificate or degree. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board lists the inventory of programs at: https://apps.highered.texas.gov/program-inventory/

<u>Statement of purpose</u>: Statement that defines the purpose of the program within the context of the College. The statement should be logically linked to the College's mission statement.

Answer the question, "Why does the program exist within the college?"

<u>Student Learning Outcome</u>: statements of the measurable knowledge, skills and/or abilities students should gain and/or demonstrate upon completion of a learning experience (**course**) or sequence of learning experiences (**program**).

<u>Program-level Outcome</u>: Statement of the expected result upon completing the program. What do you expect a student to know or effectively demonstrate upon satisfactory completion of the stated requirements of this program?

<u>Course-level Outcome</u>: describe the specific, measurable knowledge, values, or skills that students are able to demonstrate upon completing the learning experience (course). The statement should use precise language and focus on the student, not the program. You may also think of these as course level learning outcomes.

<u>Outcome Measures:</u> Tools and methods that generate data and information (metrics) about student's performance relative to expected outcomes (program or course). How do you know a student has achieved the stated outcome?