Student Learning Outcomes

Student learning outcomes articulate the knowledge and skills we expect students to gain during their educational experiences. These learning outcomes ask students to connect their course- and degree-level learning to overall goals determined to be critically important to a university's graduates as they make their way in the world after graduation and prepared to engage in learning for a lifetime.

First and foremost, of course, we expect students to have learned the material presented in their individual courses. From entry-level general education courses required of all undergraduates to capstone courses restricted to seniors in a major to specialized graduate seminars, by the time of graduation students are expected to have learned the material assigned in all of their courses. We call this "content knowledge."

The broader institutional student learning outcomes ask students to connect the pieces of their education into a whole that synthesizes what they have learned. Students graduate not only knowing facts and understanding basic concepts but also demonstrating an ability to apply and explain those facts and concepts creatively in new situations. Students gain the skills and knowledge that allows them to thrive in a complex world.

Baccalaureate

A student who graduates from Texas A&M University with a baccalaureate degree will have acquired the knowledge and skills necessary to:

Master the depth of knowledge required for a degree, including the ability to:

- Articulate disciplinary and interdisciplinary theories, concepts, principles, skills, and practices;
- Synthesize knowledge across courses and other experiences; and
- Apply knowledge from core curriculum courses, discipline-based courses, and other experiences in a range of contexts to solve problems and make decisions.

Demonstrate critical thinking, including the ability to:

- Evaluate, analyze, and integrate information from a variety of sources;
- Use appropriate strategies and tools to represent, analyze, and integrate information; and
- Develop critical, reasoned positions.

Communicate effectively, including the ability to:

- Demonstrate effective oral communication skills (which could include the use of languages such as American Sign language for those who do not communicate orally);
- Demonstrate effective writing skills;
- Demonstrate effective nonverbal communication skills (which could include appropriate use of performance, design, or representations such as maps, tables, and graphs);
- Listen actively and critically;
- Present work effectively to a range of audiences; and
- Effectively communicate original and creative ideas.

Practice personal and social responsibility, including the ability to:

- Practice ethical leadership;
- Recognize an ethical dilemma and apply rational decision-making in order to address it;
- Choose ethical courses of action in research and practice;
- Acknowledge and address the consequences of one's own actions; and
- Engage in local and global civic activities.

Demonstrate social, cultural, and global competence, including the ability to:

- Live and work effectively in a diverse and global society;
- Articulate the value of a diverse and global perspective; and
- Recognize diverse economic, political, cultural, and religious opinions and practices.

Prepare to engage in lifelong learning, including the ability to:

- Exhibit the skills necessary to acquire, organize, reorganize, and interpret new knowledge;
- Show proficiency in current technologies and the ability to adapt to emerging technologies;
- Recognize and participate in activities that enhance wellness of body, mind, and spirit;
- Formulate a plan of personal goals for continued professional growth; and
- Demonstrate intellectual curiosity.

Work collaboratively, including the ability to:

- Participate effectively in teams;
- Consider different points of view; and
- Work with others to support a shared purpose or goal.