Writing Learning Outcomes

By the end of this class/module/course, students will be able to

_____ verb _____ _ the knowledge, skill or attitude you expect them to acquire

by _how they will apply their knowledge or skill/how you will assess their learning._

[this last part of the statement is optional]

Example:
“By the end of this course, students will be able to select and evaluate reference materials by incorporating them appropriately into written assignments.”

Draft learning outcomes:

By the end of this ________________, students will be able to ________________

_______________________________.

By the end of this ________________, students will be able to ________________

_______________________________.

Tips:
- Think SMART: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound
- Avoid vague verbs such as: understand, know, realize, comprehend, think, experience, etc.
- Group similar outcomes (eg. ‘describes functions of the heart and describes functions of the liver’ into ‘describes functions of major body organs’).
- The time you plan to spend on an outcome should be weighted according to importance.
- **Before** you create outcomes, think about where your course fits in the program – what learning needs to occur before or after your course (prerequisites)
- **After** you create your outcomes, think about what assessments will provide you with student work (evidence) you will examine to determine if outcomes have been achieved.