

# Course Goals and Learning Objectives



Instructors can clarify their “desired results” for a course by making a distinction between “Goals” and “Objectives.”

**Course Goals** state your general aspirations for the course. Course goals might:

- summarize the body of material you intend to address
- name the ways you wish your students to be changed by your course
- be long-range and even extend beyond the boundaries of any one course

**Learning Objectives** express the specific knowledge, skills, and values you want students to acquire in a specified time period. They:

- are measurable
- break down tasks into discrete cognitive processes (e.g., correlating to Bloom’s taxonomy)
- begin with action verbs

## Exercise 1:

Indicate whether each statement below is a “Goal” or an “Objective.”

- G 1. In this course, you will learn about forced migrations
- O 2. By the end of this course, you will be able to identify the primary and secondary audience(s) of a text
- G 3. Through this course, you will develop a deeper appreciation of the considerations of ethical decision-making
- G 4. In this course, you will encounter the major arch of the American history
- O 5. Students will list the key chemical features and characteristics of basic food ingredients
- G 6. In our class together, we will discover the major branches of philosophy
- G 7. Students will understand the basic facts, principles, theories, and methods of modern science
- O 8. You will use various rhetorical strategies and appeals to construct written arguments
- G 9. By the end of the course, students will understand key events in the development of science and recognize that science is an evolving body of knowledge
- O 10. Learners will apply the economic concepts of ‘efficiency’ and ‘equity’ to government policy
- G 11. Learners will gain familiarity with the variety of literary, historical, and cultural trends that shape the literature of the British world-system in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- G 12. This course will help students develop and sharpen critical reading and writing skills
- G 13. In this course, you will hone your writing through close readings and critical analysis of literature
- G 14. By learning to ask how and why as well as who, what, where, and when, we will gain an understanding of historical change
- O 15. You will demonstrate your learning by finding and labeling on a map twenty key sites in Christian history

## Exercise 2:

Re-write three of the “Goals” above as “Objectives” (to do this, you may need to change the verbs, indicate how it will be measured, narrow the content, and/or focus on one discrete element of a broader task)