Reviewing Learning Outcomes

Whether you are devising or reviewing your learning outcomes, the following questions can be used to ensure the outcome has all the critical elements:

* Are the statements focused on student learning? (i.e., what will students take away from the course?)
* Do the chosen action verbs convey the appropriate depth of learning and avoid vague options (e.g., appreciate, understand)?
* Are the outcomes meaningful (to you and to students)? Are they attainable?
* Are the outcomes observable? Do they describe what learning looks like?
* How would you assess your outcomes? What is the ideal assessment? What modifications might be necessary?
* How comprehensive is the list of outcomes? Are all critical elements of the course captured?
* How do the outcomes align with your department’s program-level learning outcomes? …and Western Degree Outcomes?
* Are the outcomes clear and concise?
* Do the outcomes indicate disciplinary context?