

Please note the course syllabus must include a description, objectives, major topics and textbook for us to be able to approve the new course and move it through.

Please find below some SAMPLE COURSE OBJECTIVES provided by the office of Center for Advancement of Teaching (Contact: [Teach@fiu.edu](mailto:Teach@fiu.edu))

## Examples of Course Goals and Learning Objectives

### 1. An Astronomy Course from the University of Washington

Source: <http://depts.washington.edu/learning/coursegoals.html>

The goals/objectives of this course are:

- to understand science as a process: how it is done, what skills are involved, how it applies to everyday life, and how it is used to learn about the universe
- to understand and apply basic physics concepts to problems in astronomy

Course learning objectives are derived from the course goals and designed to be assessable. By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- apply scientific thinking to problems in astronomy
- apply scientific thinking to problems in areas other than astronomy
- understand important concepts in astronomy
- form a hypothesis
- design an experiment
- collect and interpret data
- estimate error
- understand sample bias (*explain sample bias to someone that is not familiar with it*)
- understand the nature of light (*describe how light interacts with matter and what information that interaction tells us*)
- understand the nature of gravity (*describe, at a basic level, the nature of gravity*)
- understand the observational foundations of some of astronomy's greatest discoveries (*connect how particular observations led to some of astronomy's greatest discoveries*)

### 2. A Dance Course from the University of Washington

Source: <http://www.washington.edu/students/icd/S/dance/250bcoop.html>

Course Goals: This class will introduce students to dance as a universal human activity and an expression of cultural identity. Through weekly readings, videos and discussions, we will take a cross-cultural and historical view of a variety of theatrical and non-theatrical dance forms and investigate the numerous ways that dance functions in different societies and how these functions may change over time and in response to events such as colonization, globalization and technology.

Course Learning Objectives:

- To appreciate dance as a cultural practice that occurs universally and with infinite variety
- To recognize, reflect upon, and be able to articulate the essential components of dance movement
- To understand that dance is a form of human expression as well as a means of communication
- To investigate the differences and similarities dance has across disparate cultures
- To understand how dance is a reflection of societal values and worldviews
- To understand how dance can simultaneously conserve and expand culture
- To recognize dance as a part of the cultural infrastructure of American society

### 3. An Ecology Course from Suffolk University

Course Goal/objective: Students will understand how to use concepts and principles of ecology, together with plausible evidence, to describe the interactions of organisms with their environments and with each other.

Course Learning Objectives: Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate that organisms are both interdependent and dependent on their environments, using specific examples from various major taxa as well as from marine, freshwater, and terrestrial environments;
- Illustrate how ecosystems consist of populations of organisms, together with abiotic inputs, nutrient cycles, energy cycles, and limiting factors;
- Explain how species and populations interact in a dynamic fashion in communities;
- Propose one or more hypotheses that plausibly suggest how different species can occupy the same ecological niche, and support the hypothesis or hypotheses with convincing evidence;
- Illustrate how the various world biomes reflect global physical and biotic diversity;
- Use the concept of ecological succession to explain temporal changes in communities and ecosystems; and
- Demonstrate the range of human impacts on the natural environment, together with their specific causes.

### 4. A Spanish Course from Carnegie Mellon University

Source:[http://www.cmu.edu/teaching/design/teach/design/learningobjectives-samples/learnin\\_gobjectives-hss.html](http://www.cmu.edu/teaching/design/teach/design/learningobjectives-samples/learnin_gobjectives-hss.html)

Course goals and objectives combined:

By the end of the course students should be able to perform a variety of communicative functions with a novice level of accuracy and fluency. Some of these functions include:

- Introducing oneself appropriately with different levels of formality according to the situation.
- Talking about daily routines and educational experience.
- Describing family relationships and members.
- Communicating about preferences, likes and dislikes.
- Participating in a situation where items are bought or exchanged.
- Describing and ordering food.
- Talking about celebrations and personal relationships.