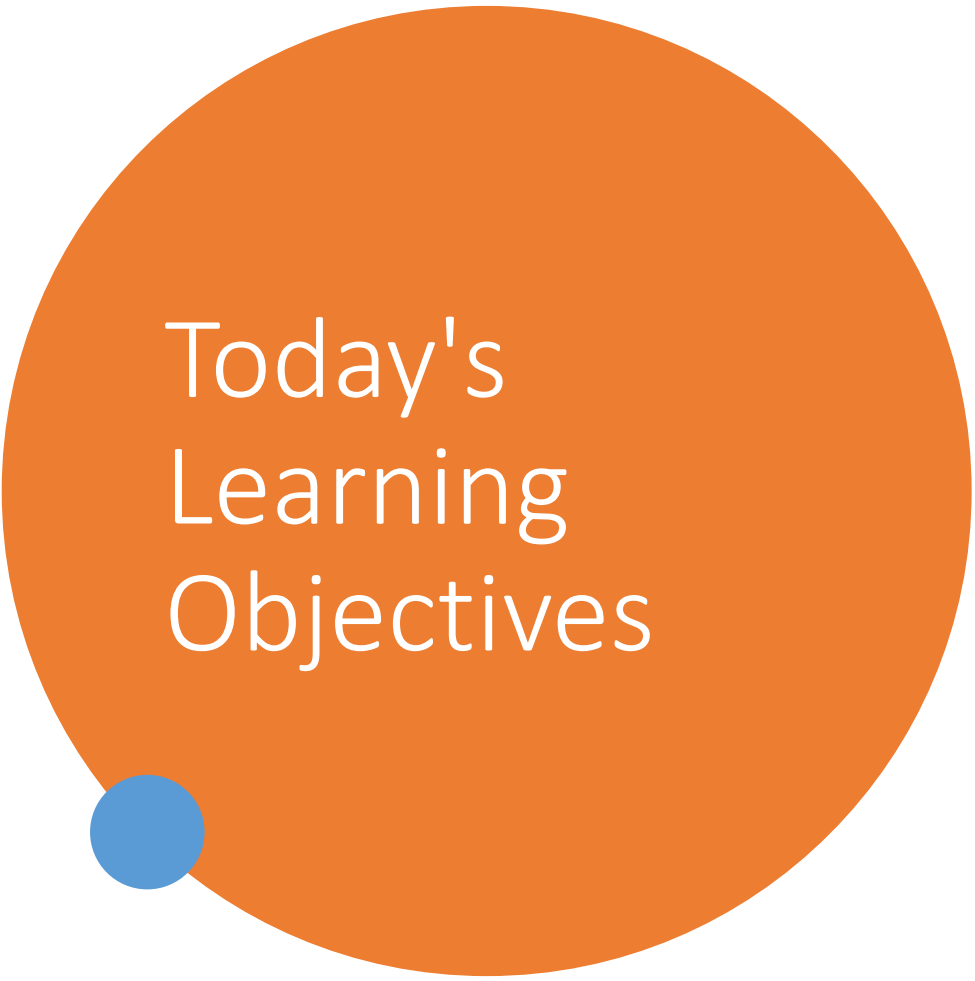# Best Practices for Learning Objectives

S.T.A.N.D. Meeting

January 12, 2024

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DSAMH Workforce Development & Education

Today's Learning Objectives

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

- Index six levels of complexity and specificity across intended learning outcomes
- Apply a framework for categorizing educational goals and objectives
- Rewrite learning objectives that are measurable and adhere to the S.M.A.R.T. method

What is a Learning Objective?

A learning objective is a brief statement that specifically describes what the learner will be able to perform by the end of the lesson, unit, project, or course.
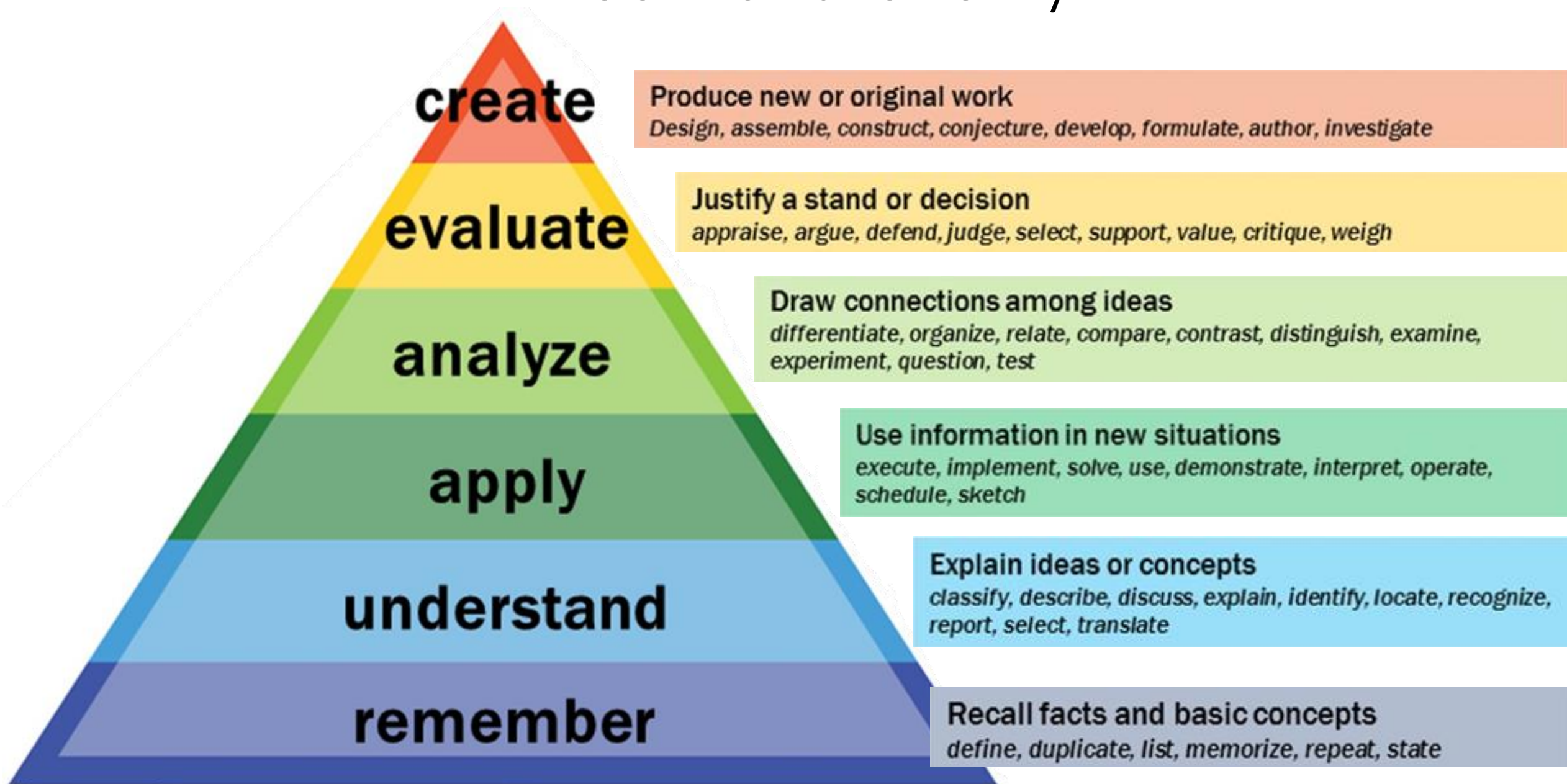
Learning objectives should be learner-centric and should start with language that dictates what the learner will gain from the lesson

Learning objectives should also be SMART- specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound.

Bloom's Taxonomy

create
Produce new or original work
Design, assemble, construct, conjecture, develop, formulate, author, investigate

evaluate
Justify a stand or decision
appraise, argue, defend, judge, select, support, value, critique, weigh

analyze
Draw connections among ideas
differentiate, organize, relate, compare, contrast, distinguish, examine, experiment, question, test

apply
Use information in new situations
execute, implement, solve, use, demonstrate, interpret, operate, schedule, sketch

understand
Explain ideas or concepts
classify, describe, discuss, explain, identify, locate, recognize, report, select, translate

remember
Recall facts and basic concepts
define, duplicate, list, memorize, repeat, state

Why do measurable learning objectives matter?

- Measurable learning objectives provide learners with what is expected of them within a course. They clarify what a learner is expected to learn after engaging with instructors, peers, course content and assignments.

Examples

Examples of measurable verbs and phrases:

- Reproduce
- Summarize
- Demonstrate
- Design
- Compare

Examples of verbs and phrases to AVOID:

- Understand
- Appreciate
- Value
- Gain awareness

What does a measurable learning objective look like?

- After this module, the learner should be able to orally present a new client's case in a logical manner by summarizing the pertinent positive and negative findings

- After this module, the learner should be able to analyze and respond to arguments about mental health stigma

- Upon completing this course, students should be able to summarize the effect of medication-assisted treatment for opioid addiction

Mindfulness and the Art of Self Care: A Journey to Landscape Painting and Joy

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION:

Join us for a relaxing journey in self-care with mindfulness, painting with a twist, and even mocktails! In the first hour, participants will learn and practice mindfulness skills that strengthen one's capacity to be fully present and in the moment with acceptance and compassion. In the remaining two hours, participants will examine the creative expression of painting as a technigue for mindfulness, self-discovery and self-care. The process, tools and techniques of blending colors, landscape design, and the incorporation of silhouettes will be discussed. All participants will leave with their own painted canvas.

Draft Objectives:

Participants will:

1. Understand mindfulness and its applications as a self-care tool

2. Learn a step-by-step process for creating an acrylic landscape painting with silhouette details

3. Be introduced in a calm environment to utilizing art for self-care and mindfulness

4. Learn creative self-expression, while improving personal well-being and quality of life

5. Through the cultivation of new artistic skills, participants will have a sense of accomplishment and pride.

Let's Practice!

- PAY ATTENTION to what Breakout Room you are being sent to before you click on "Join"! The room number you are in is the LO number your group is assigned

- As a group, work together to determine what Bloom's level the LO could be in, and rewrite the LO using a measurable verb.

- Check to make sure your LO is S.M.A.R.T.

- Identify one person to record the new LO and to be prepared to type it in the whiteboard when we return to the main room

References

- Vanderbilt University Center for Teaching

- https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/blooms-taxonomy/

- Anderson, L. W., Krathwohl, D. R. (2001). A taxonomy for learning, teaching, and assessing: A Revision of Bloom's Taxonomy of Educational Objectives. New York: Longman.

- http://acorn.library.vanderbilt.edu/cgi-bin/isbn-search/0321084055

- Florida International University Inside Onliner

- https://insider.fiu.edu/writing-in-bloom-writing-measurable-learning-objectives/

- Ruhl, C. (2023). Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning. Simply Psychology.

- https://www.simplypsychology.org/blooms-taxonomy.html

- Center for Teaching and Learning

- https://ctl.wiley.com/learning-objectives-basics/

Review: Today's Learning Objectives

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