Writing Objectives in Three Domains

donna.wright@mwsu.edu

- Goals
  - are broad aims or purposes of the course
- General Objectives
  - are broad statements of a learning outcome, usually immeasurable, do not include specific course content
- Performance Objectives
  - **are precise, measurable statements of observable performance, include specific course content, usually one concept per objective**

A Learning Outcome Is …

- Concerned with the **PRODUCTS** of learning rather than the **PROCESS** of learning

- A statement of the measurable learning that is intended to take place as a result of instruction, in other words …

- … **what we expect students to be able to do at the end of instruction**

Advantages of Objectives

- Demonstrate shift in emphasis
  - What instructor must teach
  - What student should be able to do as a result of learning
- Help students understand relation of course to curriculum and institutional goals
- Facilitate fairness in delivery and evaluation
- Establish sequence of information for learning
- Encourage self-evaluation
- Facilitate efficient learning and reduce anxiety

Writing Objectives

- Objectives should be:
    - Related to performance or behavioral outcomes
    - Specific, clear, & concise
    - Observable
    - Measurable
    - Written with ACTION WORDS

Complete the Phrase:

- "Upon completion of this session seminar class program

the student participant will _____" attendee

Conditions

- Upon Completion / During this Experience
- With Assistance / Independently
- 100% Performance / 75% Accuracy
- One Time / Repeated Measure

These points often apply to the whole list and can be explained in a paragraph before listing the objectives.

Use Observable Action Words!

- List, Maneuver, Design, Explain, Calculate, Position, Provide, Sort, File, Demonstrate Appreciation, ...

- NOT
  - Understand, Know, See, Think...

Classifying Objectives

Bloom's classification system or Taxonomy for educational objectives is divided into 3 major areas called domains

Cognitive Domain

Psychomotor Domain

Affective Domain

Taxonomy of Educational Objectives

- Cognitive Domain
  - Describes the **knowledge** that learners are to acquire

- Psychomotor Domain
  - Describes **skills** that learners are to master

- Affective Domain
  - Describes **attitudes**, feelings, and dispositions that learners are expected to develop

Domain Handout

Cognitive Domain

1. Knowledge (simple)
2. Comprehension
3. Application
4. Analysis
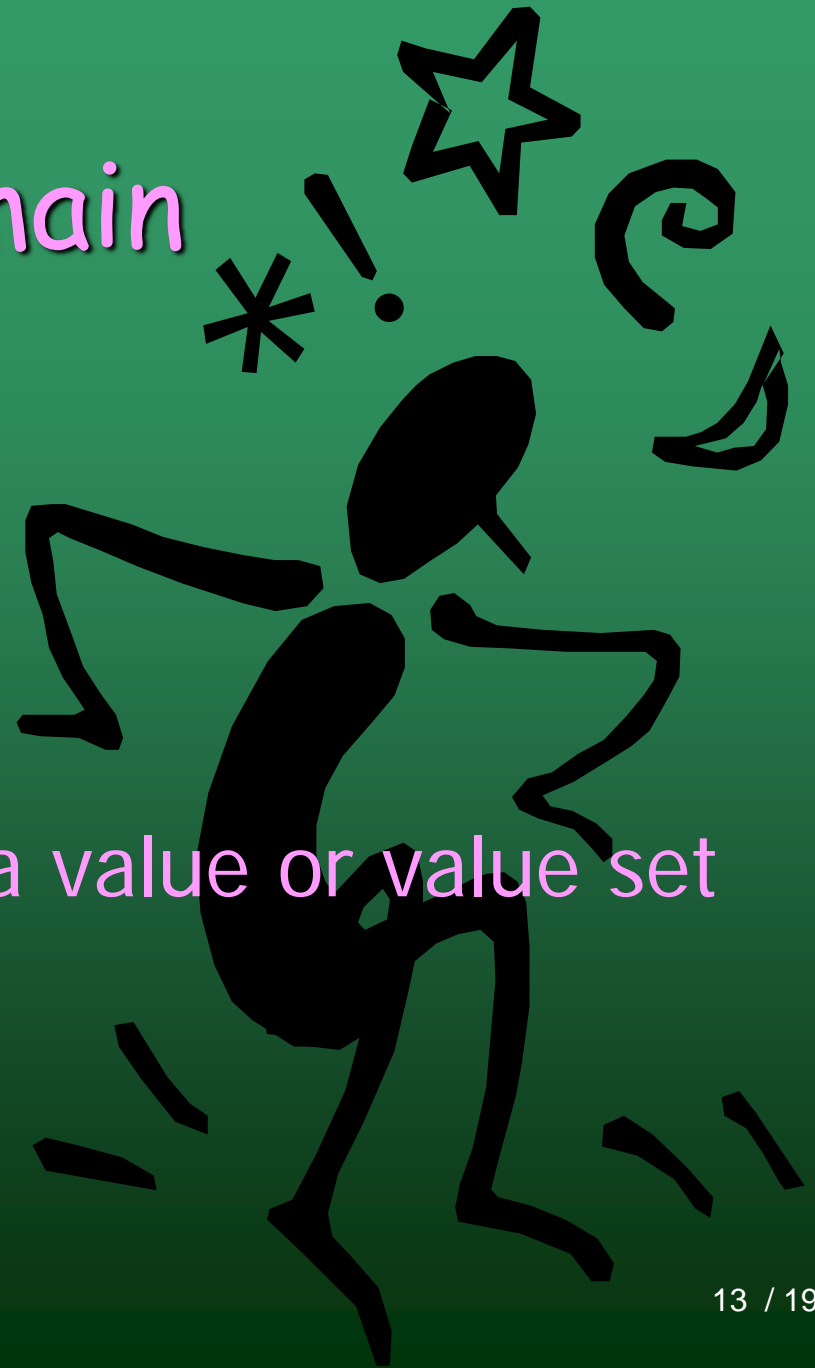5. Synthesis
6. Evaluation(complex)

Psychomotor Domain

1. Perception (simple)
2. Set
3. Guided Response
4. Mechanism
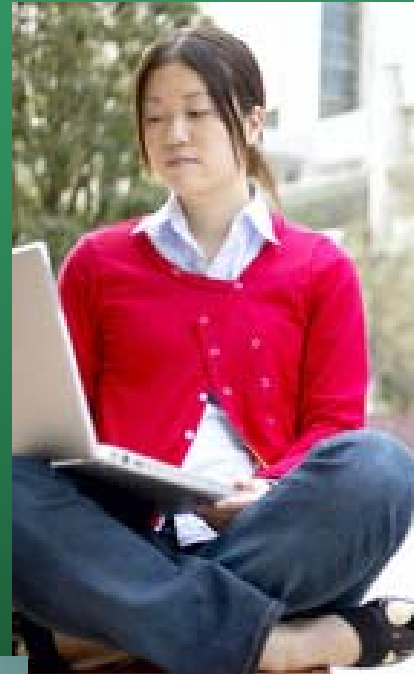5. Complex Overt Responses
6. Adaptation
7. Origination (complex)

Affective Domain

1. Receiving (simple)
2. Responding
3. Valuing
4. Organization
5. Characterization by a value or value set (complex)

Affective Domain

Write Stronger Affective Domain Objectives

- From this:
  - Attend two history seminar sessions.
    - ? What is impact or expected level of participation

- To this:
  - Demonstrate a willingness to learn about women's roles in this period of history by **participating in discussions** at two seminar sessions.

Write Stronger Affective Domain Objectives

- From this:
  - Read textbook assignments on computer technology in schools.
    - How will exposure to these topics alter the way the student assesses technology?

- To this:
  - Demonstrate interest in at least one topic from the assigned reading by reviewing an **outside book or movie** dealing with that issue.

Write Stronger Affective Domain Objectives

- From this:
  - Join a student organization.
    - What level of commitment is required?
- To this:
  - Demonstrate leadership skills by **volunteering for a committee** in a student organization.

Write Stronger Affective Domain Objectives

- From this:

  - Describe radiographic evidences of child abuse.

    - Passive, only between student and faculty

- To this:

  - **Design** an interactive poster or website (with self-tests and case studies) about evidences of child abuse **for display** in the hospital lounge.

Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez!