

Understanding Alignment

Institutional Goals ↔ Program Goals and Outcomes ↔ Course Outcomes

Institutional Goals: (UW Shared System Goals)	Goal A: Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Natural World	Goal B: Critical and Creative Thinking	Goal C: Effective Communication	Goal D: Intercultural Knowledge	Goal E: Individual, Social, and Environmental Responsibility			
	↕ ↕	↕ ↕	↕ ↕	↕ ↕ ↕ ↕	↕ ↕			
Program Goals and Outcomes:	Folklore PLO 1	Theory PLO 2, PLO3, PLO 7	Ethnography PLO 6	Community PLO 8	Culture PLO 9	Ethics PLO 5	Fieldwork PLO 4	
	↕ ↕	↕ ↕	↕ ↕	↕ ↕	↕ ↕	↕ ↕	↕ ↕	
Course Learning Outcomes for Course A:	CLO 1	CLO 3 CLO 7	CLO 4, CLO 7	CLO 2 CLO 8	CLO 8	CLO 9	CLO 6	CLO 5
	PLO= Program Learning Outcomes		CLO= Course Learning Outcomes			Unaligned CLOs: CLO 5 Unaligned PLOs: PLO 4		

- Alignment is always upward. Assignments and assessments align with CLOs, CLOs align with PLOs, and PLOs align with institutional goals.
- Each course has outcomes that align with program outcomes, but may have additional outcomes that do not.
- Each program has outcomes that align with the institutional learning goals, but may have other program outcomes that do not.
- Evidence of learning and achievement for the institutional goals is collected indirectly, through the program and course level outcomes that are aligned with them.
- Evidence of program learning outcomes is collected using either a program rubric or common measure, or indirectly through course assignments or assessments connected to aligned course outcomes.