

## Measurable action verbs for learning objectives

Low Level	Medium Level	High Level
define	apply	analyze
describe	assemble	appraise
discuss	calculate	argue
explain	compare	arrange
explore	contrast	assess
identify	combine	build
indicate	defend	choose
list	demonstrate	classify
memorize	detect	compose
name	determine	conclude
recall	differentiate	critique
recognize	discriminate	debate
restate	distinguish	diagram
state	employ	draw
summarize	examine	estimate
write	experiment	extrapolate
	implement	formulate
	investigate	generalize
	locate	judge
	measure	illustrate
	operate	instruct
	predict	label
	perform	order
	reproduce	organize
	repair	plan
	set up	prioritize
	sequence	propose
	solve	rank
	specify	represent
	use	score
	test	select
	verify	theorize
		value
		weigh

The following are verbs to **avoid** because these verbs are difficult to quantify and evaluate. For example, how does one assess a student's understanding or appreciation?

appreciate	cover	gain knowledge of	realize
approximate	comprehend	know	reflect
be aware of	demonstrate an	learn (about)	see
be familiar with	understanding of	provide	study
become acquainted	familiarize	understand	

Based on Virginia Tech's "Verbs to Use for Learning Objectives," accessed on June 8, 2017, and available on page 6 of the document posted at the following URL:  
[https://www.registrar.vt.edu/content/dam/registrar\\_vt\\_edu/documents/governance/2015-2016/GCC\\_Course\\_Certificate\\_Proposal\\_Guidelines\\_2014-15.pdf](https://www.registrar.vt.edu/content/dam/registrar_vt_edu/documents/governance/2015-2016/GCC_Course_Certificate_Proposal_Guidelines_2014-15.pdf)