

### Intended learning outcomes – what are they?

Intended learning outcomes (ILOs) for your tutorial or teaching session should describe what you intend the students to know or be able to do at the completion of your tutorial. Intended learning outcomes are not simply a list of topics or a body of knowledge. Educators describe ILOs as statements indicating the level of understanding and performance that students are expected to achieve as a result of engaging in a teaching and learning experience. Effective learning outcomes require some careful consideration. They should not be too broad e.g. ‘the students should understand mental health problems’, or describe lower level cognitive skills e.g. ‘the students will understand the role of alcohol in road trauma’. Each intended learning outcome should support the all-embracing goal of the course – uniting the topics and skills that should be mastered by the end of the rotation or semester. Writing the learning outcomes for your teaching session or tutorial helps provide a meaningful structure and framework to base your teaching. Education experts often use the S-K-A acronym in consideration of learning outcomes. SKA refers to skills, knowledge and attitudes.

SKILLS	What students should be able to do following your teaching activity or tutorial
KNOWLEDGE	What students should know and understand at the completion of your teaching activity or tutorial
ATTITUDES	What the students’ attitudes will be following your teaching activity or tutorial e.g. professional attributes

Further information about writing ILOs can be obtained at UQs ‘Institute for Teaching and Learning’ ITaLI <http://www.uq.edu.au/teach/peer-obs/pivotal.html>