List of Measurable Verbs Used to Assess Learning Outcomes

Bloom's Taxonomy of Educational Objectives (1956): Cognitive Skills
A group of educators, led by Benjamin Bloom, identified a hierarchy of six categories of cognitive skills: knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation. As students learn, they start with the knowledge level and progress through the hierarchy. Thus, advanced courses should include skills at a higher level than introductory or basic skills courses. Below you will find a web-resource as well as a list of measurable verbs to assist you in writing course objectives and assess learning outcomes. “Understand” is NOT a measurable verb.

Objective-Builder Resource: http://radiojames.com/ObjectivesBuilder/

Knowledge Level: The successful student will recognize or recall learned information.
list state name tell
record arrange describe recall
underline select describe memorize
label reproduce
recognize repeat

Comprehension Level: The successful student will restate or interpret information in their own words.
explain translate identify restate discuss
describe express classify locate review
report summarize discuss compare illustrate
reiterate interpret reference estimate critique

discuss

Application Level: The successful student will use or apply the learned information.
apply use practice demonstrate
sketch solve construct conduct
perform respond role-play execute
employ

Analysis Level: The successful student will examine the learned information critically.
analyze distinguish differentiate appraise
inspect categorize catalogue quantify
test critique diagnose experiment
debate relate calculate appraise

debate

Synthesis Level: The successful student will create new models using the learned information.
develop plan build create
revise formulate propose establish
compose collect construct prepare
manage modify organize
integrate design design

Evaluation Level: The successful student will assess or judge the value of learned information.
review justify assess defend
appraise argue rate score
choose conclude compare evaluate
support measure investigate
interpret report on select