

UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

October 25, 2016

The document that follows is the intended outcomes for the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine (MU-CVM). Specifically, these outcomes, or the Curriculum Level Outcomes (CLO) are the intended day one skills that graduates of the program should possess.

The genesis of the CLO began at the last accreditation visit by the AVMA COE where accreditation was granted with a mandate to perform a “holistic curriculum review.” This review process began from the office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs with a survey querying the instructors on space and other teaching needs. Subsequently some classes were transferred to the auditorium to accommodate more graduate students and minor modifications were made to the schedule.

Next, the curriculum committee took ownership of the review and began by studying the documents associated with the most recent curriculum review, completed in 1999-2000. The previous review was organized and guided by subject matter expert teams to evaluate classes and provide recommendations. The committee assessed the results of this review to be inconsistent in findings, recommendations, and subsequent implementation. Further, faculty involved recalled that the process was labor intensive.

The committee then spent time brainstorming methods to approach the curriculum review that would provide a mechanism to evaluate the curriculum holistically and as divided into its individual courses. A self-assessment approach, similar to Quality Matters, emerged as a potential starting point, however the committee determined the MU-CVM did not have set expectations for teaching, learning, or the program as a whole. To address this problem, the committee chose to create curriculum level objectives based in the mandated AVMA COE clinical competencies. These outcomes could then be tied and mapped to course level outcomes and objectives. This is intended to assist instructors in evaluating their own course(s) by revealing blind spots and/or areas of redundancy as well as creating a map of content supported across the curriculum. The map is also targeted to help create partnerships between clinical and pre-clinical instructors who teach and build within and across the same content areas. Additionally, the mapping will help identify required content that is not relevant to the CLO or AVMA COE, which if eliminated could free up time in the classroom for relevant material. Outcomes based education has greater than 30 years of research supporting it as a “best practice” across every level of education. Even more, MU-CVM student feedback gathered consistently affirms that the use of well written and aligned objectives significantly improves the learning environment.

As a completed document, the MU-CVM CLO are a product of faculty collaboration; informed by relevant literature; best practices and/or outcomes of other college or schools of veterinary medicine; and formatted, styled and informed by the Texas A & M New Graduate Outcomes (NGO) document. We are immensely grateful for the hard work and dedication of our faculty and for the contributions from and efforts by other AVMA accredited institutions. Without them this would not have been possible, thank you!



Linda M. Berent, DVM, PhD, DACVP
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine



Instructions for use:

1. Start with your course materials—your lecture objectives, outcomes, course outcomes, lab objectives, etc. Whatever you are using to document what you want students to be able to ‘know’ or ‘do’ or ‘demonstrate’ as a result of your teaching.
2. Analyze the CLO document to align your objectives to the appropriate CLO.
3. If you find a best fit, move to the next objective.
4. If your objectives do not fit:
 - a. re-evaluate the objective for relevance to day one skills and consider cutting this material
 - b. work with mentors and course leaders to re-write objectives to ensure they are measurable and appropriate for the level of student and scope of the course
 - c. contact the curriculum committee and associate dean for academic affairs – the CLO is a work in progress and may need adjusted as missing items are identified
5. After your current course objectives are aligned, examine the CLO document for areas of opportunity to include novel material (case studies, communication exercises, etc.)
6. As a final step, each of your test questions, quizzes or other graded activities should align with your course objectives and will therefore be mapped to a CLO in the future.

