



Policy on Programme Outcomes

Scope of the Policy

The linkage between processes and outcomes is a fundamental issue in many programme evaluations. The purpose of an outcome evaluation should be to help define program processes, program outcomes, and the linkages between the two. Identifying and conceptualizing program outcomes and impacts are both inductive and logical processes. The evaluator's job then becomes to describe what exactly happens to those in the program and what the students have to say about what happens to them. Once the data on both the processes of the programme and the outcomes of the participants are available, it must be organized logically so that the processes and outcomes can be linked. A way to do this is to first classify outcomes. It is then possible to organize the data in a way that describes the content and focuses of the programme. This enables both stakeholders and those outside the programme to know which kinds of changes (outcomes) are occurring. The changes can then, through participant data, be related to specific programme processes.

Using a outcomes matrix is helpful in organizing these data. The combination of any process (identified by the mission of the program) with any outcome (identified through participant data from interviews or observations) produces a cell in the matrix. The process/outcome matrix becomes a way to organize, consider, and present the qualitative connections between the dimensions of the program and the outcomes of the program. A map for every programme outcome, programme specific outcomes and course outcomes are placed at the annexure to this policy.

Definitions

Programme Outcomes (POs) are **broad statements that describe the professional accomplishments which the program aims at**, and these are to be attained by the students by the time they complete the program. These are the statements about the knowledge, skills and attributes the students should have acquired on completion of the formal graduation programme. POs deal with the general aspect of graduation for a particular program and the competencies and expertise a graduate for a particular program will possess after completion of the programme.



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What are the Program Outcomes :

Programme outcomes examine what a programme or process is to do, achieve, or accomplish for its own improvement and/or in support of institutional or divisional goals: generally numbers, needs, or satisfaction driven. They can address quality, quantity, fiscal sustainability, facilities and infrastructure, or growth.

What are the examples of Programme Outcomes:

They should be observable (and when appropriate measurable). They should be clearly written and easily understood by faculty, students, staff, administrators, and external constituencies. Each set of outcomes should be comprehensive, coherent, and contextualized for a specific discipline.

Choose Clear, Measurable Action Verbs. Avoid Vague Verbs.

Knowledge	Comprehension	Evaluation
define	classify	appraise
identify	describe	assess
indicate	discuss	choose
know	explain	compare

Difference between objectives and outcomes:

Objectives are intended results or consequences of instruction, curricula, programmes, or activities. Outcomes are achieved results or consequences of what was learned; i.e., evidence that learning took place.

Course Outcomes (are statements which are course specific. They cover the core course and related outcomes and contribute to the overall attainment of the Programme Outcomes. Each course is designed to meet (about 5-6) Course Outcomes. The course outcomes are stated in such a way that they can be evaluated. COs are set by the University as stipulated in the syllabus document.

