

**Effective Teacher Series 2005-2006**

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Course Rationale and Objectives:  
A "Hands On" Technology Workshop

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**My Goals & Your Objectives**


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- **My Goals: To familiarize you with resources for**
  - Identifying course rationale and creating course goal(s)
  - Identifying and creating course objectives
- **Your Objectives: At the end of this presentation, you should be able to**
  - List potential sources of assistance in creating your "first draft" of course goals and course objectives
  - Use the WorldWideWeb as a resource
  - Refine WWW search results to increase their usefulness

**Rationale for this Presentation**

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Rationale = the reasoning or principle that underlies or explains something, or a statement setting out this reasoning or principle

Use available RESOURCES 

~~Don't REINVENT the "wheel"~~ 

**The Dictionary**

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- **Rationale = the reasoning or principle that underlies or explains something, or a statement setting out this reasoning or principle**
- **Goal = The purpose toward which an endeavor is directed; an objective.**
  - Synonym = intention.
- **Intention**
  - 1. A course of action that one intends to follow.
  - 2. An aim that guides action; an objective.
- **Objective (n.) = Something that actually exists**

**Google®, Goals and Objectives**

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Search Term	Search Limits			
	None	.edu	.org	.com
"course goals"	704	529	112	194
"clerkship goals"	444**			
"course objectives"	4,230	2,410	488	1,150
"clerkship objectives"	822**			
"goals and objectives"	20,700	3,720	5,510	6,110

\*\* All other results are in thousands

**"Goals and Objectives"**

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- **Google® search of "goals and objectives" = about 20,700,000 results**
- **From [www.nsba.org](http://www.nsba.org) = National School Boards Association**
- **"The difference between where we are (current status) and where we want to be (vision and goals) is what we do (target objectives and action plans)."**

**Course “Goals”**

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- Google® search of “course goals” = about 704,000
- Definition = The purpose toward which an endeavor is directed
- From [www.personal.psu.edu](http://www.personal.psu.edu) Penn State University:
- “Goals are broad, generalized statements about what is to be learned. Think of them as a target to be reached, or ‘hit’.”

**Course “Objectives”**

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- From [www.personal.psu.edu](http://www.personal.psu.edu) Penn State University
- “Instructional **objectives** are specific, measurable, short-term, observable student behaviors.”
- “**Objectives** are the foundation upon which you can build lessons and assessments that you can prove meet your overall course or lesson goals.”
- “Think of **objectives** as tools you use to make sure you reach your goals.”

**Goal = Where We Want to Be**


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“The difference between where we are (current status) and where we want to be (vision and goals) is what we do (target objectives and action plans).”

**Source(s) for Goals?**

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where we want to be  
(vision and goals)

**Source(s) for Goals?**

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Vision and Goals



where we want to be  
(vision and goals)

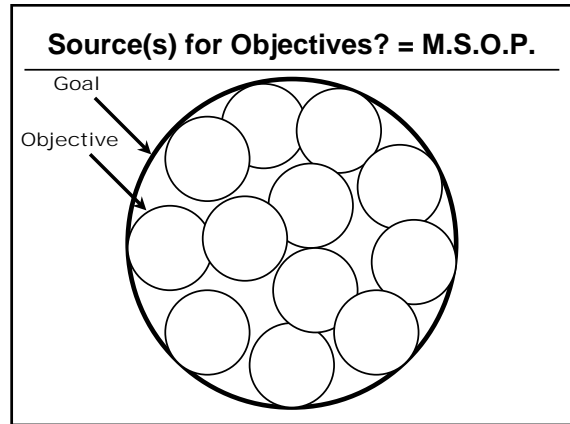
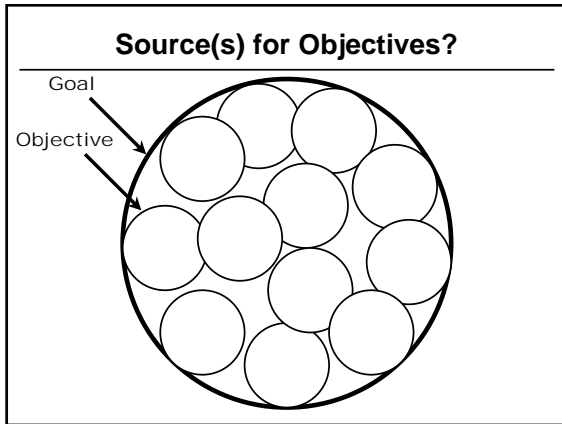
**Vision & Goal(s) = Mission Statement**

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Goal

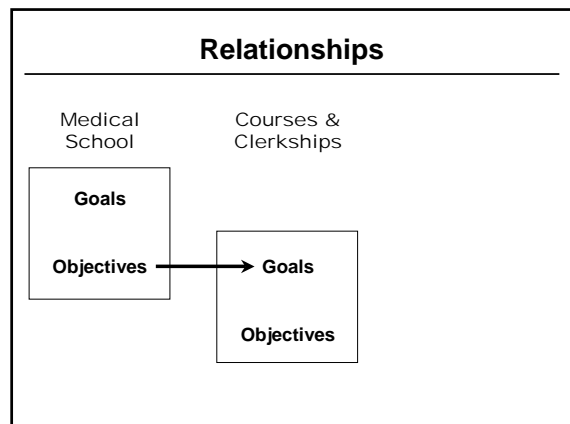
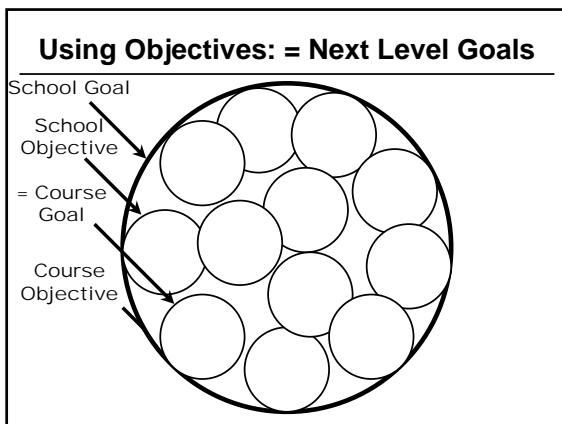


Mission of  
Southwestern Medical School:  
.....to produce graduates who  
are problem solvers, not merely  
receptacles of knowledge.....



- ### Medical School Objectives
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- AAMC-sponsored project, M.S.O.P.
  - Publications available online  
<http://www.aamc.org/meded/msop/start.htm>
  - One of the starting points for the development of the objectives for UT Southwestern Medical School
  - UT Southwestern objectives available online from  
<http://www8.utsouthwestern.edu/utsw/home/med/curricul/index.htm>
  - Broad statements: The student, before graduation, must have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the faculty, knowledge of the.....

- ### Other Sources for Objectives
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- LCME accreditation standards
  - ACGME outcome project
  - Information available online  
<http://www.lcem.org/standard.htm>  
<http://www.acgme.org/outcome/>
  - National organizations and associations with educational groups
  - From objectives within your institution or at other institutions and linked to similar goals



**Examples: Goals from Objectives**

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- 1.0 The student, before graduation, must have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the faculty, knowledge of the:
- 1.1 Normal structure and function of the body (as an intact organism) and of each of its major organ systems
- 1.2 Molecular, biochemical, and cellular mechanisms that are important in maintaining the body's homeostasis
- 1.1 & 1.2 include goals for Anatomy, Biochemistry, Cell Biology, Embryology, Endocrinology & Neuroscience
- = Medical Knowledge in ACGME language

**Goals Too Broad or Too Few?**

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- 1.1 Normal structure and function of the body (as an intact organism) and of each of its major organ systems
- 1.2 Molecular, biochemical, and cellular mechanisms that are important in maintaining the body's homeostasis
- Are there goals for individual components of the course or clerkship that should or could be used?
- = Medical Knowledge in ACGME language

**Remember: Course "Goals"**

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- Google® search of "course goals" = about 704,000
- Definition = The purpose toward which an endeavor is directed
- From [www.personal.psu.edu](http://www.personal.psu.edu) Penn State University:
- "Goals are broad, generalized statements about what is to be learned. Think of them as a target to be reached, or 'hit'."

**A "Hands On" Exercise**

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- Work with a colleague – two heads are better than one
- Search using the term "course (or clerkship) goals" together with your area of interest e.g. Surgery, "physical exam"
- If there are a number of people interested in the same area, divide the search results pages between you
- Pursue the possible leads by opening in a new window (right click and choose open.....)
- Return to the original search results page for more

**An Example of Resource Searching**

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<http://www.google.com>

**How to Choose**

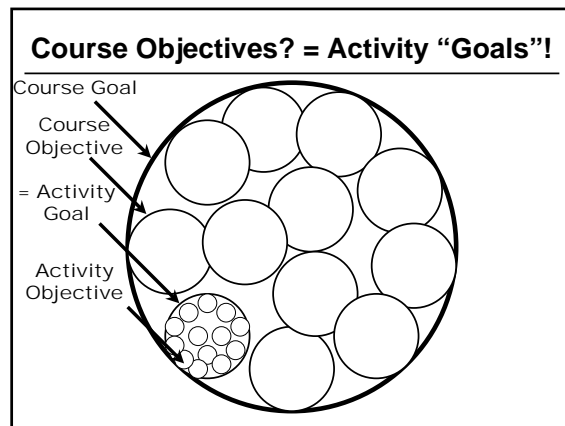
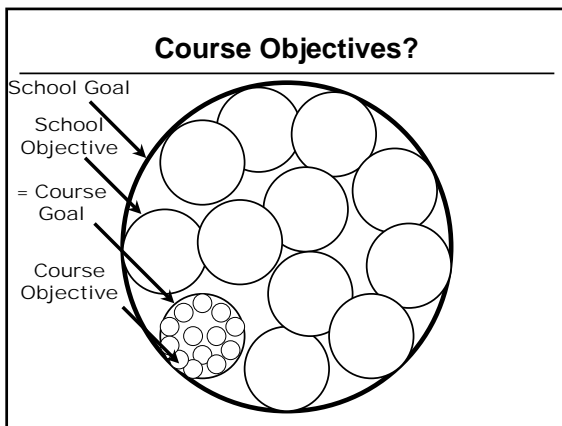
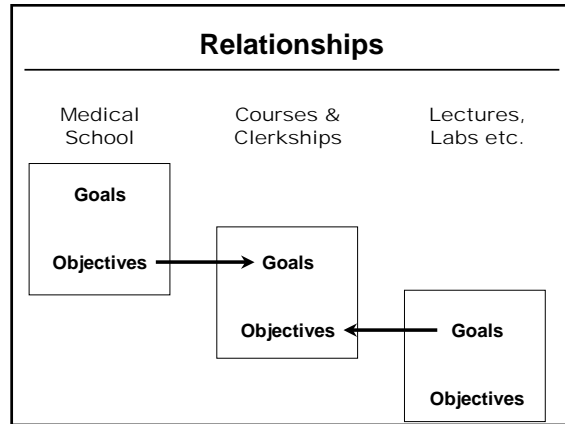
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- 133 results for "clerkship goals" and Surgery
- Limit search results to universities ("\*.edu") or organizations ("\*.org")
- 117 results when limited to "\*.edu"
- "Read" the URL and see if you can identify the source of the web page e.g. unmc.edu, ufl.edu etc.
- New Mexico, Florida, Medical College of Georgia, UT San Antonio, USC represented (p1)

### What About Course Objectives?

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- Educational definition of objectives is much more specific than the definition of goals
- Requires identification of content to be mastered and assessed
- May be harder to write course objectives than objectives for a specific activity?
- Where can you go for inspiration? Component activity goals!



### Course and Activity: MS2

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- Course = Microbiology
- Activity = Viral hepatitis lectures
- Activity goal = "Provide a road map for hepatitis virology and clinical medicine"
- Course objective = "Given a patient with hepatitis (i.e. hepatic inflammation), list the serologic tests and associated results that identify the common viral causes and indicate the methods of choice for treatment and prevention"

### Course and Activity: MS2

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- Course = Clinical Medicine
- Activity = Jaundice and cholestasis lecture
- Activity goal = "Provide an algorithm for making the diagnosis in patients with jaundice & cholestasis"
- Course objective = "Given a patient with jaundice, list the hepatic enzyme patterns and test results that identify the common causes of each pattern"

### A "Hands On" Exercise

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- Work with a colleague – two heads are better than one
- Search using the term "course (or clerkship) objectives" together with your area of interest
- If there are a number of people interested in the same area, divide the search results pages between you
- Pursue the possible leads by opening in a new window (right click and choose open.....)
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### How to Choose

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- 246 results for "clerkship objectives" and Psychiatry
- Limit search results to universities ("\*.org") or organizations ("\*.edu")
- "Read" the URL and see if you can identify the source of the web page e.g. admsep.org
- = Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry
- Michigan, UCSF, U Washington etc. represented (p1)

### An Example of Resource Searching

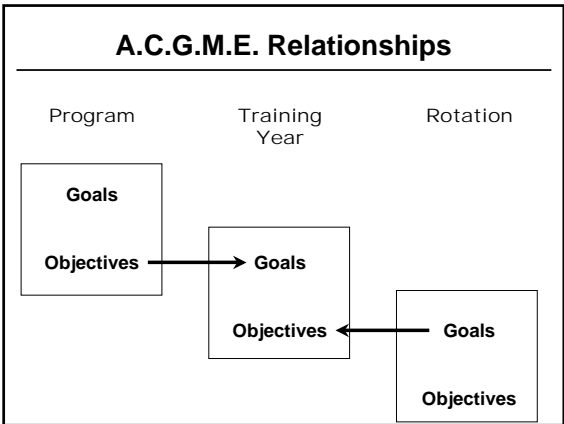
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<http://www.google.com>

### Remember: ACGME

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- ACGME requirements include goals and objectives
- Goals and objectives for each GME program
- Goals and objectives for each year of training
- Goals and objectives for each rotation
- Does this seem daunting?
- Don't try to create ("invent"), use available resources!



### Summary

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- Goals and objectives can intertwine
- The objectives of the medical school can be the goals of the courses and clerkships
- The goals of the lectures, discussion groups and practical experiences can be the objectives of the courses and clerkships
- The WorldWideWeb provides an enormous resource
- Use resources, rather than reinventing