

Tracking Cougar Curriculum



January 2013

TRACKING STUDENTS UP THE PYRAMID

Texas General Education Core Objectives

- Critical Thinking
- Communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills
- Teamwork
- Personal Responsibility
- Social Responsibility

Foundational Component Areas

(with credit hours)

- American History (6)
- Communication (6)
- Creative Arts (3)
- Government / Political Science (6)
- Language, Philosophy & Culture (3)
- Life and Physical Sciences (6)
- Mathematics (3)
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (3)
- Component Area Option [distributed across the components] (6)

Critical thinking assessments show that our students are pretty good at critiquing material prepared by others if they can base that critique on their personal experiences, pop culture or current events. But they need more opportunities to apply empirical and quantitative information to critical thinking tasks. And they need practice analyzing or synthesizing situations which call for them to select credible, relevant facts and opinions not in their personal referential knowledge base to support new or alternative solutions and perspectives. They need more time at the top of the pyramid!

According to Benjamin Bloom and his colleagues,

there are six levels of cognition. Ideally, each of these levels is covered to some extent in each course. Program outcomes are usually at the application level or higher because at the end of a program, a student should be able to assess a variety of situations and appropriately apply the facts and skills that s/he acquired through the program curriculum.

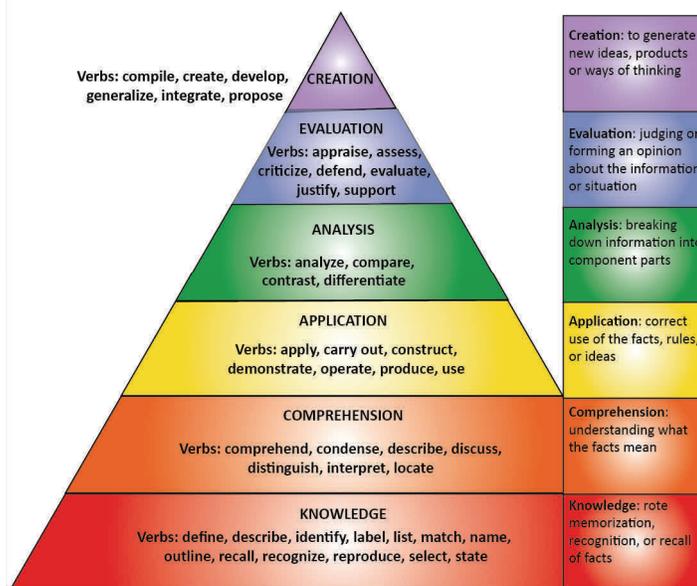
Internet Resources for Bloom's Taxonomy

The internet is full of wheels and charts and tables that provide common action verbs used in drafting outcomes for each level of Bloom's Taxonomy. Activities and assess-

ment tools based on the various levels can also be found. For a sample, take a look at the sites below:

- <http://zaidlearn.blogspot.com/2009/07/use-blooms-taxonomy-wheel-for-writing.html> or
- <http://teaching.uncc.edu/articles-books/best-practice-articles/goals-objectives/writing-objectives-using-blooms-taxonomy>

BLOOM'S TAXONOMY



CAB ACTIONS Oct.-Dec. 2012

The following areas had course/program revisions:

- Animation
- Business Management
- Computer-Aided Drafting and Design
- Computer Networking Technology
- EMS Professions
- Engineering
- ESL
- Fire Academy
- Graphic Design
- Green Interior & Architectural Design
- Information Systems Cybersecurity
- Marketing
- Music, Commercial
- Music, FOS
- Photography

Full minutes are posted on the Curriculum Office's intranet site.