Mapping Your Program Learning Outcomes to Institutional Learning Objectives

Example of alignment

Undergraduate ILO
Communicate and report (ILO 2c)

Program
An ability to communicate effectively (Program SLO 3)

Course SLOs
Able to describe in writing the project site, salient problems, and constraints and to propose in writing concepts and solutions (CRS 400, 1)

Able to produce a presentable report containing an executive summary, introduction, tasks distribution, concepts, design calculations, drawings for tender documentation, and conclusions (CRS 400, 5)

What is the difference between ILOs, program SLOs, and course SLOs?
• Institutional Learning Objectives (ILOs) are those skills, values, ideas, and qualities that the University as a whole believes are important for all undergraduates.
• Program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) are those things each specific program finds important for their graduates to have mastered while in the program.
• Course SLOs are what students are expected to achieve in a course.
• There is clearly an overlap such that course SLOs support program SLOs which, in turn, build to ILOs.

Why does Mānoa have undergraduate ILOs?
The Faculty Senate approved the ILOs in 2012 because they
• help faculty and students think coherently about the undergraduate educational experience and the meaning of Mānoa undergraduate degree;
• help Mānoa demonstrate the quality and integrity of the degree;
• help create understandable pathways for student learning;
• help us align undergraduate education with common values; and
• help with WASC accreditation processes.

Does my program have to address every ILO?
No. Because the ILOs encompass the Mānoa experience as a whole—academic and co-curricular—it is understood that any specific department may not address all the ILOs.

Does my program have to do more assessment because of the ILOs?
No. Your program is responsible for assessing its program SLOs at least once every Program Review or professional accreditation cycle. Please note that when your program SLO is aligned with an ILO, your program is also assessing how well your students are achieving the ILO when it conducts its regular assessment of student learning.
How do I know if a program SLO is directly related to an ILO? What boxes should I check on Question 1 of the annual assessment report?

- When the same terms are used, the relationship is clear. Example:

| Program SLO: An ability to **communicate** effectively | is aligned with | ILO 2c, communicate and report. |

- Check the box if the program will be able to answer future questions such as, “What percent of the program’s majors/students met expectations for the specific ILO?”

- Check the box when the wording of the program SLO explicitly elaborates, explains, or illustrates the general objective stated in ILO:

| Program SLO: **Students are able to describe research methods and findings through a case study and executive summary** | is aligned with | ILO 2c, communicate and report, because the case study and summary are written products of the discipline. |
| Program SLO: **The student can conduct evaluations of apparel product quality using industry standards, regulatory agency criteria, and appropriate industry terminology** | is aligned with | ILO 2a, think critically and creatively, because evaluation is an illustration of critical thinking. |

- Leave the box unchecked if you need to make inferences from the wording of the program SLO to the ILO:

| Program SLO: **Students make use of research when developing lesson plans** | is **NOT** aligned with | ILO 2a, think critically and creatively, because “make use of” may imply critical thinking but it is not explicit. |
| Program SLO: **Students critically analyze and use their analysis when developing lesson plans** | is aligned with | ILO 2a, think critically and creatively, because critically analyze is an illustration of critical thinking. |
| Program SLO: **Students make use of research when developing lesson plans** | is aligned with | ILO 1b, specialized study, because lesson plans are a genre specific to the discipline. |

- Leave the box unchecked if the program does not specifically evaluate student work in terms of the target ILO. Example: effective communication requires critical thinking (ILO 2a), but if the program does not evaluate critical thinking separately from an evaluation of the communication, the program should leave the box unchecked.