

## Assessment and Bloom's Taxonomy

In the fifties, a committee of colleges lead by Benjamin Bloom identified three different domains of thinking. These domains are

**Cognitive:** mental skills (*Knowledge*)

**Affective:** growth in feelings or emotional areas (*Attitude*)

**Psychomotor:** manual or physical skills (*Skills*)

In teaching, much of our attention should be paid to the Cognitive domain. The Cognitive domain involves knowledge and the development of intellectual skills (Bloom, 1956). This includes the ability to recall or recognize facts, patterns, and concepts that function in an individual's development of intellectual abilities and skills. The cognitive domain is divided into six parts moving from the simplest form of cognition to the most complex.



The challenge for faculty is to identify and assess whether students are steadily moving from the simplest type of learning (remembering) to the most complex (creating). Some courses, particularly introductory courses, should concentrate on a student's ability to remember, understand and, perhaps, apply. As students progress through their coursework their thinking abilities should become more complex where they are learning to analyze and evaluate the material and can eventually take all of this information to create something that illustrates their individual knowledge.

The following is a list assessment procedures that are intended to help in measuring where students are in the cognitive process.

Cognitive Category	Students will be able to:	Means to Assess
Remember: recall data or information	Recall, recognize	Objective tests (multiple choice, true/false), reciting (orally, musically or in writing accuracy (correct vs. number of errors), item analysis
Understand	Interpret, exemplify, classify, summarize, infer, compare, explain	Papers, oral/written exams, questions, problems, class discussions, concept maps, homework assignments that require (oral or written) summaries, comparisons
Apply	Execute, implement	Procedures to solve or complete familiar or unfamiliar tasks, problem sets, performances,
Analyze	Differentiate, organize, attribute	Case studies, critiques, labs, papers, projects, debates
Evaluate	Check, critique	Journals, diaries, critiques, problem sets, product reviews, case studies
Create	Generate, plan, produce	Research projects, musical compositions, performances, essays website designs, set designs

Materials related to Bloom's or other forms of assessment are available in our office in Science East 201. So feel free to stop in and check out our books.

### Classroom Management

Not surprisingly, there exist students who have attitudinal or behavioral problems which manifest in the classroom. These student problems can affect their ability to learn and can also have an influence on a faculty member's ability to create a safe classroom to enhance student success. As a means of correcting these problems, Carnegie Melon's teaching center created a [webpage](#) intended to present useful approaches to addressing teaching problems. These approaches are grounded in research and learning principles. Once at the [webpage](#) you will be asked to select your classroom or student problem, from there you will be able to select the possible reasons for the problem followed by suggestions or solutions to your problem. If you encounter problematic situations in your classes, this might be a helpful [webpage](#) to consult!

### Suggest material for the Zahnow Library collection

Do you know that you can suggest books, videos/dvds and other material for the Zahnow Library collection? These suggestions may be sent to subject liaison librarians until April 8<sup>th</sup>. After that suggestions will be held until mid-July when FY 2013 funds are allocated. Specific titles can be recommended or topics can be suggested for the liaison to investigate. Locate your subject liaison by visiting the SVSU Faculty button on the library homepage (<http://www.svsu.edu/library>) and clicking on the "Library Liaison" link. The liaison page contains the contact information for liaisons librarians. For more information or questions, contact your liaison librarian or Jennifer Dean, Head Collection Development & Acquisitions librarian ([jldean@svsu.edu](mailto:jldean@svsu.edu), x. 7092)

### March Workshops

**March 15 10:00 - 11:30 Z302**

Using the VSpace Wiki and Blog tools.

**March 16 12:00 - 1:00 SE 206**

Creating Web Quests for Active Learners (lunch provided)

**March 23 12:00- 1:00 SE 201**

Lunch and Learn, Student Self Assessments (bring your lunch)

**March 28 10:00- 11:30 Z302**

VSpace Gradebook 2

## Upcoming Events

### Adjunct Faculty Awards Reception

In the next few weeks you will be receiving an invitation for the Third Annual Adjunct Faculty Awards Reception to be held on Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. The reception will honor those faculty who have been teaching at SVSU for five, ten, fifteen, twenty or more years. Appetizers will be served at 5:00 followed by dinner and the awards. Please look for the invitation in the mail and reply promptly by mailing us at [adjunct@svsu.edu](mailto:adjunct@svsu.edu) or calling us at 989-964-4050. We certainly look forward to hearing from you and hope you will attend.

### Active Learning and Webquests

The use of webquests is a highly effective way to encourage active learning by using the internet and other online sources. Designing webquests is not difficult and it is a great way to incorporate collaborative learning. If you are interested in learning more about webquests, please choose to attend the workshop titled, *Creating Webquests for Active Learning* on Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at Noon in Science East 206. You can register for this workshop by going to [www.svsu.edu/workshops](http://www.svsu.edu/workshops) or calling our office at 964-4050.