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Student learning objectives and mathematics teaching.

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The current work is the first article in a two-paper series exploring the role of explicit learning objectives in undergraduate mathematics instruction. A definition of student-learning objective (SLO) is introduced. We give examples of SLOs for topics from introductory college and university mathematics courses. We list potential advantages of a general program of grounding mathematics instruction in a set of such explicit SLOs. In the second paper in this series, an explicit, step-by-step algorithm for creating sets of student learning objectives will be described and its use illustrated. (Abstract)

Classification: D35 D45 C75

Keywords: learning objectives; lesson planning; student motivation; subject-matter knowledge; teaching-learning processes

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