

Understanding the learning outcomes

Learning outcome descriptors

The following chart shows specific descriptors for each learning outcome. These descriptors are only suggestions; they are not exhaustive and can be adapted, edited, expanded or shortened.

CAS learning outcomes

Learning outcome 1: Identify own strengths and develop areas for growth

Suggested descriptors

The student:

is aware of own strengths and weaknesses

is open to improvement and growth opportunities

is able to propose experiences according to own interests and talents

is willing to participate in different experiences

is able to undertake a thoughtful self-evaluation

is able to see themselves as individuals with various abilities and skills, some more developed than others.

Learning outcome 2: Demonstrate that challenges have been undertaken, developing new skills in the process

Suggested descriptors

The student:

participates in an experience that demands an appropriate personal challenge; this could be with new or familiar experiences

is willing to become involved in unfamiliar environments and situations

acquires new skills and abilities

increases expertise in an established area

shows newly acquired or developed skills or increased expertise in an established area.

Learning outcome 3: Demonstrate how to initiate and plan a CAS experience

Suggested descriptors

The student:

is able to articulate and use the CAS stages including investigation, preparation, action, reflection (ongoing) and demonstration, moving from conceiving an idea to carrying out a plan for a CAS experience or series of CAS experiences

demonstrates knowledge and awareness by building on a previous CAS experience

shows initiative by launching a new idea or process

suggests creative ideas, proposals or solutions

integrates reflective thoughts in planning or taking initiative

is aware of roles and responsibilities when designing an individual or collective CAS experience

shows responsible attitude to CAS project planning

is able to develop a coherent action plan.

Learning outcome 4: Show commitment to and perseverance in CAS experiences

Suggested descriptors

The student:

demonstrates regular involvement and active engagement with CAS experiences and CAS project
is able to foresee potential challenges to the initial plan and consider valid alternatives and contingencies
demonstrates adaptability to uncertainties and changes
gets involved in long-term CAS experiences and CAS project.

Learning outcome 5: Demonstrate the skills and recognize the benefits of working collaboratively

Suggested descriptors

The student:

shares skills and knowledge

listens respectfully to proposals from peers

is willing to take on different roles within a team

shows respect for different points of view and ideas

makes valuable contributions

is responsible for participating in the group

readily assists others

is able to identify, demonstrate and discuss critically the benefits and challenges of collaboration gained through CAS experiences.

Learning outcome 6: Demonstrate engagement with issues of global significance

Suggested descriptors

The student:

recognizes the global implications of local issues

is able to identify global issues in the local or national community

shows awareness of issues of global importance and takes concrete and appropriate actions in response to them either locally, nationally or internationally

gets involved in CAS projects addressing global issues in a local, national or international context

develops awareness and responsibility towards a shared humanity.

Learning outcome 7: Recognize and consider the ethics of choices and actions

Suggested descriptors

The student:

recognizes ethical issues

is able to explain the social influences on one's ethical identity

takes into account cultural context when making a plan or ethical decision

identifies what is needed to know in order to make an ethical decision

articulates ethical principles and approaches to ethical decisions

shows accountability for choices and actions

is aware of the consequences of choices and actions regarding self, others involved and the community

integrates the process of reflection when facing an ethical decision

shows awareness of the potential and varied consequences of choices and actions in planning and carrying out CAS experiences.

(Data taken from IBO CAS Guide: Creativity, activity, service guide; For students graduating in 2017 and after)