INTRODUCTION

Learning outcomes provide the opportunity for students to focus specifically on what they want to learn and achieve on co-op, thereby enabling them to better self-regulate in pursuit of those goals. The learning outcome statements (up to five) describe what students would like to be able to do as a result of their co-op experience. Once a student develops and enters learning outcomes into the online system, the outcomes are forwarded to the supervisor for review. Ideally, this review will lead to a discussion between the student and their supervisor to ensure that the outcomes are indeed achievable and perhaps how the student can be supported to achieve them. Developing learning outcomes will be required of students as of Spring of 2016. Until then, co-op coordinators have the option to pilot these with select cohorts of students. To volunteer to pilot in the spring or fall 2015 semesters, please contact the Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning Through Research (learningresearch@neu.edu).

Learning Outcomes - Explanation and "how to"
WHAT ARE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES?

- Learning outcomes are statements that specify what you will know, be able to do, or be able to demonstrate at the end of a specific period of time.
- In terms of learning outcomes for your co-op experience, the outcomes should be expressed as the knowledge, skills, or abilities you would like to obtain by the end of your placement.
- Well written learning outcomes are observable, measurable, and focus on you rather than your supervisor or job environment.
- Your learning outcomes are a way for you to invite your co-op supervisor to support your learning and development in addition to managing your job performance.

HOW DO YOU WRITE LEARNING OUTCOMES?

- Each outcome should begin with you as the subject.
  - At the end of co-op, I will...
- Select a specific verb that captures how you will demonstrate your learning.
  - At the end of co-op this, I will be able write learning outcomes...
- Include the level of accomplishment you hope to achieve in this area.
  - At the end of co-op this, I will be able write learning outcomes effectively.

### Make Your Outcomes S.M.A.R.T

- **S** • Specific
  - Target a specific skill or area for development

- **M** • Measurable
  - Provide a specific level of accomplishment

- **A** • Attainable
  - State what results can realistically be achieved

- **R** • Relevant
  - Select an outcome related to your work on co-op

- **T** • Timely
  - Specify when the outcome will be achieved

### Making Outcomes More Specific

- I want to learn how to work in a clinical setting.
  - At the end of my co-op, I will be able collect and organize appropriate clinical data.

- To learn Excel.
  - At the end of my co-op, I will be able create sales forecasting reports using MS Excel.

- I will become familiar with the publishing industry.
  - At the end of my co-op, I will be able to list the six major magazine publishers and what magazine titles are associated with each.