Syllabus Integration: Connecting the Dots for Students

The course syllabus is an ideal place for students to see how the knowledge, skills, and work produced in class connects to their course, major and institutional learning goals. This is currently not required, but a study of other college/university tagging efforts shows that this is a best practice. Below is an example from Syracuse University's MAX 302 syllabus which communicates the connection between the program learning outcomes, course learning objectives, assignments, and Shared Competencies course tags.

CCE PROGRAM VALUES & Learning Outcome Statements	MAX 302 Course Learning Objectives. This semester you will:	Course Assignments	Two Syracuse University Shared Competencies Stressed in MAX 302
VALUES & ETHICS – Students will be able to evaluate ethical practices of citizenship and civic and community engagement in light of different public philosophies, societal and community values, and their own experiences.	Train and get certified formally to conduct ethical social science research.	Reflection #3: CITI Training for Human Subjects Research	
	Explore Civic Studies research and the research that is associated with your companion major(s).	Reflections #1 and #2	SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY & RESEARCH SKILLS: Application of scientific inquiry and problem solving in various contexts. Analysis of theories, replication of procedures, and rethinking existing frameworks. Supporting arguments through research, data, and quantitative and qualitative evidence that can generate new knowledge.
RESEARCH & DISCOVERY – Students will be able to utilize social science research methodologies to discover community and societal facts and values.	Research and write an annotated bibliography, literature review and final research report.	Annotated Bibliography Literature Review Final Research Report	
	Learn about and practice social science research design.	Research Prospectus Revise & Resubmit	
COMMUNITY & CONTEXT – Students will be able to analyze and evaluate the development of civic life in specific locational settings, from global to local.	Identify, analyze, and evaluate facts and values associated with the community and organizations where you believe your MAX 401 Senior Action Plan will occur.	Reflection #4	
COLLABORATION & ENGAGEMENT – Students will be able to interact and work with diverse communities using appropriate and ethical practices.	Present orally the major findings of your research at a public poster session.	Research Poster and Public Presentation	
DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION – Students will be able to create a feasible and sustainable community and/ or civic engagement project or policy with a partner organization.	Create and use a research prospectus as the basis for a research project.	Research Prospectus	CRITICAL & CREATIVE THINKING: Exploration and synthesis of ideas, artifacts, issues, and events to inform and evaluate arguments, develop new insights, and produce creative work. Reflection on, and application of divergent modes of inquiry, analysis, and innovation to research, knowledge, and artistic creation.