

Cardiff University

The Graduate Attributes

Cardiff University Introduces, The Graduate Attributes

CU Graduate Attributes are a collection of skills that have been identified by professional and student advisory groups to help students with their future employment opportunities.

When applying for any type of employment, we want students to be able to sell their skills, knowledge, professionalism and attributes to any potential employer.

To help students get the best out of those opportunities, we have developed the following attributes and really focused on what skills are important globally, and universally, across all sectors and industries.

Collaborative

1. Contribute positively and effectively when working in a team, having an impact from the outset
2. Demonstrate enthusiasm and the ability to motivate themselves, and positively influence others in meeting agreed responsibilities agreed
3. Be respectful of the roles of others and acknowledge the limits of their own skills / experience

Effective Communicators

1. Listen to and take account of the views of others
2. Communicate complex ideas effectively to diverse audiences
3. Contribute to discussions, negotiate, and present with impact
4. Deliver, accept, and act on constructive feedback
5. Take a professional approach to communication, including their own online/social media profiles, and be alert to how words and actions may be interpreted by others

Ethically, Socially and Environmentally Aware

1. Consider own personal and professional ethical, social, and environmental responsibilities
2. Demonstrate personal and professional integrity, reliability, and competence
3. Understand organisations, their stakeholders, and their impact on the community
4. Actively take responsibility for promoting human rights, celebrating diversity, and widening inclusion
5. Be mindful of the Climate Emergency and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals
6. Act as global citizens, engaging with and valuing cultural difference through practical experience of other countries

Independent and Critical Thinkers

1. Identify, define, and analyse complex issues and ideas, exercising critical judgement in evaluating sources of information
2. Demonstrate intellectual curiosity and engage in the pursuit of new knowledge and understanding
3. Investigate problems and offer effective solutions, reflecting on and learning from successes and failures

Innovative, Enterprising and Commercially Aware

1. Generate original ideas and apply creative, imaginative, and innovative thinking in response to identified needs and problems
2. Take the initiative to act on own ideas and the ideas of others, balancing risk and returns and making things happen
3. Be confident in pursuing entrepreneurship as a viable and rewarding career path
4. Understand organisations, their stakeholders, and their impact on the economy

Reflective and Resilient

1. Actively reflect on own studies, achievements, and self-identity
2. Demonstrate resilience, adaptability, and creativity in dealing with challenges, and be open to change
3. Identify and articulate own skills, knowledge and understanding confidently and in a variety of contexts
4. Engage with new ideas, opportunities, and technologies, building knowledge and experience to make informed decisions about own future
5. Set aspirational goals for continuing personal and professional development, planning effectively with a commitment to lifelong learning

Whether students use these Graduate Attributes in their cover letter, CV, during preliminary recruitment rounds or at an interview, knowing how to talk about themselves in a positive, authentic, and relatable manner is important.

How they demonstrate, evidence, and describe their skills is important. The following resources have been designed to enhance, develop, and revisit skills they might already have. We just want to make sure every student is set for the future they want.

The future of employment is constantly evolving. Preparing students, helping them to develop their confidence and ability to handle those future challenges, is important to us and obviously of importance to them.

We get it.

The Graduate Attributes.