

Discover your options

Careers, Internships & Employment

Top 10 Skills / Attributes sought after by graduate employers

An Employability Skills Survey carried out by Victoria University's Careers and Employment Service in June 2015 revealed the top 10 important skills and attributes being sought after by employers in new graduates and students. The survey received 346 eligible local and international respondents. These were the overall findings:



Skills and attributes sought after by an employer vary in level of importance depending on the position, industry and the organisation. Other skills and attributes of interest to employers include leadership skills, industry knowledge/work experience, excellent cultural fit, those who have a genuine interest in the work of the organisation and who engage in extracurricular activities. UC Careers encourage individuals to develop a combination of these key skills and attributes to enhance employability and well roundedness.

Source: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/careers/resources/employment_skills_survey.aspx
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Skills & attributes sought after when recruiting:

1. Work ethic
2. Verbal communication skills
3. Energy & enthusiasm
4. Analytical & critical thinking
5. Problem solving
6. Team work
7. Interpersonal skills
8. Written communication skills
9. Self-management
10. Initiative & enterprise

Develop these skills & attributes through:

- Academic study and project work
- The Academic Skills Centre www.lps.canterbury.ac.nz/lsc/
- Work experience & internships www.careerhub.canterbury.ac.nz www.canterbury.ac.nz/
- UC Centre for Entrepreneurship <http://www.uce.canterbury.ac.nz>
- Awards and scholarships www.canterbury.ac.nz/scholarships
- Participation in UCSA and other clubs www.ucsa.org.nz
- Cultural activities
- Public speaking/debating
- Playing sports
- Mentoring
- Voluntary work www.volcan.org.nz

