

Preamble

The University of Auckland has developed a collection of Graduate Profiles for students in postgraduate level programmes that expresses an aspiration for its graduates through a set of university-wide attributes and values which it considers to be attainable by graduates of a leading research university. They communicate to current and potential students and faculty, employers, the community, and other academic institutions the qualities that The University of Auckland seeks to impart to, or foster in, its graduates. The Graduate Profiles that have been developed are for: (i) Postgraduate Coursework Graduates; (ii) Postgraduate Research Graduates (masters level or equivalent); and (iii) Doctoral Graduates.

The University of Auckland is committed to provide an educational experience of the highest standards to its students. In addition, The University of Auckland recognises the needs of a diverse and multi-cultural student population, including its special responsibility under Te Tiriti o Waitangi / The Treaty of Waitangi.

The implementation of the Graduate Profiles rests with the faculties, departments, and other teaching and learning support divisions of the University, which may develop more specific profiles that are suitable for their subject fields and/or student population. As the student learning environment changes, the Graduate Profiles will be reviewed.

Description

A Postgraduate Coursework Graduate will demonstrate the ability to explore new and emerging fields of study, and to acquire further knowledge of theory and/or professional practice in a specialist area. On completing their studies, Postgraduate Coursework Graduates will have attained a core set of attributes and values that provide a platform to allow them: (i) to undertake higher study at the postgraduate research level, and in some cases at the doctoral level, in their chosen subject field; (ii) to continue developing personally and professionally in their careers; and (iii) to make potentially innovative, and important contributions to the communities and societies in which they reside. The University of Auckland expects its Postgraduate Coursework Graduates to obtain the following attributes and values:

I. Specialist knowledge

- (a) A mastery of a body of knowledge, including an understanding of conceptual and theoretical elements, in the field of study.
- (b) An understanding and appreciation of current issues and debates in the field of study.
- (c) An understanding and appreciation of the philosophical bases, methodologies and characteristics of scholarship, research, and creative work.

2. Effective communication

- (a) A capacity to communicate ideas effectively in suitable formats to a range of audiences inside the field of study or discipline and to the wider community.
- (b) An ability to communicate effectively using written and spoken English and/or Māori, or where appropriate, other languages.

3. General intellectual skills and capacities

- (a) A capacity for critical, conceptual, and reflective thinking.
- (b) A capacity to locate, contextualise, critically evaluate, synthesise, and use information effectively.
- (c) An ability to analyse information, where appropriate, using appropriate tools, technologies, and methods.
- (d) A capacity for critical appraisal of relevant scholarly literature.
- (e) An ability to initiate, design, conduct, sustain, and report research.
- (f) A willingness to seek continuous improvement in research skills and quality of research.
- (g) Interdisciplinary perspectives.
- (h) The self-awareness to identify one's professional, personal, and research skills, and the ability to market these appropriately in the employment market.
- (i) An understanding of career and professional development strategies.
- (j) The ability to work independently, as well as collaboratively and effectively with others, as appropriate.

4. Independence, creativity and learning

- (a) An intellectual openness and curiosity.
- (b) A capacity for creativity and originality.
- (c) An ability to identify, define, analyse, and solve problems in a flexible manner and the skill to adapt innovatively to changing environments and outcomes.
- (d) An appreciation for ideas, discovery, and learning.
- (e) Self discipline and an ability to plan and achieve goals (personal and professional), including career advancement and identifying appropriate opportunities in the chosen field.

5. Ethical and social understanding

- (a) Personal, professional and intellectual integrity, and respect for the ethics of research and scholarly activity.
- (b) An awareness of local and global dimensions of intellectual, political and economic activities.
- (c) An appreciation of human and cultural diversity and respect for the values of individuals and different cultural groups.