University of Auckland Graduate Profile: Framework

The University has adopted a three-level structure for its Graduate Profile to strengthen its communicative function and engage staff and students and external communities. Level 1 captures the University’s overarching strategic aspirations for all its students. We aim to give students the opportunity to become scholars, innovators, leaders and global citizens.

We achieve this through offering students extra-curricular and course-based experiences to develop capability in six interrelated domains or themes (Level 2): Disciplinary Knowledge and Practice, Critical Thinking, Solution Seeking, Communication and Engagement, Integrity and Independence and Social and Environment Responsibilities. Each degree delivered by the University will offer courses that address each theme but how this is done will vary from discipline to discipline. The way that each qualification interprets and delivers each theme is captured by a set of qualification specific capabilities (Level 3), referred to as an embedded graduate profile.

The 3 levels are explained in more detail below.

Aspirations
Overarching strategic aspirations for UoA graduates

• Outward-facing: communicates our strategic graduate focus & scholarly values to society.
• Reflects the University Strategic Plan 2013-20.
• Achieved through study & students’ participation as active members of the university community.
• Holistic, not necessarily quantifiable

Themes
Clusters of generic capabilities which we seek to foster in all graduates in our programmes

• Both outwards & inwards-facing: communicates graduate focus to both external audiences & UoA staff & students.
• Shaped by disciplinary knowledge & developed in academic programmes.
• Consistent headings across all embedded graduate profiles.

Capabilities
Knowledge, skills, abilities & values that comprise each of the themes

• Curriculum and student-facing: developed in teaching & assessment in students’ formal courses of study.
• Reflects discipline, programme & study level (UG, graduate, RHD, etc) & written in the language of the discipline.
• At programme level can be evidenced.
• Provide an embedded graduate profile - a degree specific expression of the university’s themes.