

What are Graduate Attributes?

Graduate attributes are the characteristics, qualities, skills and capabilities that universities seek to develop in their students by the time they graduate. ECU's Graduate Attributes – designed to help students become ethical and engaged contributors to more inclusive, sustainable and prosperous communities – will give our students a competitive edge as graduates in the workplace.

ECU's Graduate Attributes:

ECU graduates will be valued for their	Exemplified by
Ability to communicate	clarity of written and spoken expression, including in public fora, and through appropriate use of technology
Ability to work in teams	collaborating and contributing effectively in diverse settings
Critical appraisal skills	planning, organising, problem solving and decision making
Ability to generate ideas	having the courage and confidence to be creative and innovative
Cross-cultural and international outlook	engaging productively and harmoniously with diverse cultures

What this means to you

Each student needs to be actively supported to develop these five attributes throughout their course. Whilst all attributes do not need to be actively developed in every unit, course coordinators are responsible for ensuring that all graduate attributes are addressed in each year of a student's degree programme. Unit coordinators are responsible for ensuring that the development of attributes allocated to their unit is specifically targeted through the unit learning outcomes, assessments, content and teaching and learning processes in which students are engaged.

Developing Graduate Attributes within a Unit

When developing Graduate Attributes in a Unit, you should:

- Identify the relevant graduate attributes you aim to develop in your students
- Enter the graduate attributes you intend to address into the 'Graduate Attributes' field in CMS
- Ensure they are reflected in the learning outcomes, assessment tasks, unit content and teaching and learning activities.

When approving units, the Associate Dean will assess the Graduate Attributes against the unit content, assessments, and learning outcomes.

Where can I learn more about ECU Graduate Attributes?

If you'd like to learn more about including ECU's Graduate Attributes in your teaching, or any of the points outlined in this fact sheet, you can:

- Go to the factsheet for each Graduate Attribute
- Look out for Professional Development opportunities (all teaching staff are introduced to the Graduate Attributes in PDC 111),

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- Read the examples included in the CLD Curriculum 2012 example booklet, or
 - Contact the Centre for Learning and Development for advice.

Recommended reading

[Centre for Learning and Development Publications:](#)

- ECU Curriculum Framework – Examples for Teachers
- Course Coordinator Handbook - An Introduction to Course Coordination