

Level Up: Build Skills Employers Want

EMPLOYERS WHO HIRE UW GRADUATES have identified a few core skills that are critical to students' success in the job search and in the workplace. Students are encouraged to seek opportunities to develop the following skills.

MANAGE SELF

Initiative	Prepare, plan, and prioritize. Proactively look for opportunities to contribute. Be present and productive.
Adaptability	Learn emerging tools and methodologies. Be willing to change in response to new information. Create contingency plans. View setbacks as opportunities.
Accountability	Fulfill obligations, meet deadlines, and follow-through to completion. Admit and correct mistakes. Act with honesty, integrity, and humility.

ENGAGE OTHERS

Communication	Listen attentively. Ask thoughtful questions. Use inclusive language. Tailor content and delivery to audience.
Collaboration	Relate with empathy and curiosity. Acknowledge biases. Avoid assumptions. Respectfully negotiate differences. Confidently lead. Gladly follow.
Honor Diverse Perspectives	Intentionally build inclusive teams and environments. Embrace different ideas and styles. Encourage and value others' contributions.

PRODUCE RESULTS

Critical Thinking	Gather information from diverse sources. Determine accuracy, relevance, and significance. Consider opposing viewpoints. Make data-informed decisions.
Creative Problem-Solving	Analyze the big picture. Narrowly define the problem. Generate and critique numerous solutions. Anticipate possible challenges.
Continuous Improvement	Assess efficiency and effectiveness. Reflect and self-evaluate. Seek feedback and opportunities to learn. Implement change intentionally and incrementally.

WAYS TO DEVELOP SKILLS

Academics

- > Majors and minors
- > Elective courses
- > Class projects
- > Service learning
- > Study abroad

Activities

- > Student leadership roles
- > Athletics and e-sports
- > Theater and music
- > Student publications
- > CIRCLE, UniteUW, FIUTS

Experience

- > Volunteer roles
- > On- and off-campus jobs
- > Internships
- > Case competitions
- > Research

NOTE – This list is not exhaustive!
There are endless ways to develop skills!

NEXT STEPS

- > Be intentional in developing skills and getting experience
- > When you identify a path you might want to pursue, scan related job postings and develop a plan for building job-specific skills, in addition to the nine skills referenced here.
- > Seek resources to help you articulate your experiences and skills to potential employers through LinkedIn, resumes, cover letters, and interviews