

HWU GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES



HWU Graduate Attributes

In April 2013, the Learning and Teaching Board approved a series of **HWU Graduate Attributes**, for students on all undergraduate and postgraduate taught programmes.

The four HWU Graduate Attributes are:

- **Specialist**
- **Creative**
- **Professional**
- **Global**

An over-arching strapline summarises the four attributes and emphasises the distinctive quality of the HWU graduate:

professionally educated, globally employable

This series of attributes aims to ensure that the Heriot-Watt University graduate is readily identifiable and is distinct from the graduates of other HEIs. The four attributes must be regarded as a collective; it is the particular combination of these four qualities which defines the HWU graduate.

The attributes reflect the ethos and key values of Heriot-Watt University; they also take account of the HW graduate characteristics which the University's Strategic Plan states will be developed in our students.

The series of bullet points explains the particular qualities and skills which the HWU graduate will be able to demonstrate. These are intentionally aspirational, reflecting the characteristics which HWU graduates will acquire while at the University, and also develop further during their professional life.

Embedding the Graduate Attributes

The Graduate Attributes form a core part of the *Enhancing Student Learning* Strategic Objective within the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy.

From September 2016, Graduate Attributes were embedded into all taught programmes across all modes and locations of study.

<https://www.hw.ac.uk/services/academic-registry/quality/learning-teaching/graduate-attributes.htm>

References and Further Information

Contact: quality@hw.ac.uk; Learning and Teaching Policy Bank: <https://www.hw.ac.uk/services/academic-registry/quality/learning-teaching/policy-bank.htm>

Learning and Teaching Briefing Papers

This briefing paper has been produced by the Academic Registry and is one of a series related to Learning and Teaching. The briefing papers aim to provide a concise, informative overview of key policies, and include links to relevant procedures and templates.