

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 Doctoral Graduate will demonstrate advanced skills in the definition, management, and communication of original research in a specialist area. On completing their studies, Doctoral Graduates will have attained a core set of attributes and values that provide a platform to allow them: (i) to undertake further advanced research of the highest quality that contributes to knowledge and exhibits authoritative international standing 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. While the attributes and values of Doctoral and Postgraduate Research Graduates are similar, a difference exists in respect to the extent to which a Doctoral Graduate will have demonstrated attainment of these when compared to a Postgraduate Research Graduate. In particular, Doctoral Graduates will show a greater level of originality and independence in the research that is carried out. The University of Auckland expects its Doctoral Graduates to obtain the following attributes and values:

I. Specialist knowledge

- (a) A mastery of a body of knowledge, including a high level understanding of conceptual and theoretical elements, in the field of study.
- (b) A high level understanding and appreciation of current issues and debates in the field of study.
- (c) A high level understanding and appreciation of the philosophical bases, methodologies and characteristics of scholarship, research, and creative work.
- (d) An understanding of the relevance and value of their original contribution to the local and global communities' knowledge of fact, theory, and/or mastery of practice.

2. Effective communication

- (a) An advanced 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 advanced ability to communicate effectively using written and spoken English and/or Māori, or where appropriate, other languages.

3. General intellectual skills and capacities

- (a) An advanced capacity for critical, conceptual, and reflective thinking.
- (b) An advanced capacity to locate, contextualise, critically evaluate, synthesise, and use information effectively.
- (c) An advanced ability to analyse information, where relevant, using appropriate tools, technologies, and methods.
- (d) An advanced capacity for critical appraisal of relevant scholarly literature.
- (e) An advanced ability to initiate, design, conduct, sustain, and report research.
- (f) A strong 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) An advanced capacity for creativity and originality.
- (c) An advanced ability to identify, define, analyse, and solve problems in a flexible manner and the skill to adapt innovatively to changing environments.
- (d) An appreciation for ideas, discovery, and learning.
- (e) Self discipline and an advanced 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.
- (d) An awareness of the implications and potential of their research in terms of intellectual property and commercialisation.