

## The Graduate Attributes

These graduate attributes describe the characteristics that students learning on Oxford Brookes University programmes will ideally have upon graduation. As a tool for planning and design, they represent knowledge, skills and perspectives that our graduates will have developed through studying on Brookes programmes and which can help equip them for life in the 21st century. Promoting personal development, they can prepare graduates for successful and rewarding employment.

### Foundation Degree Attributes

Every Foundation degree programme will include the development of the following five core attributes:

#### **a) Academic literacy**

Disciplinary and professional knowledge and skills, understanding how to apply this in the work context, and what it means to think and behave as a member of that disciplinary and/or professional community of practice.

#### **b) Research literacy**

Ability to be a critical consumer of research, and also, where possible, to design and undertake a small-scale research project in the discipline, using appropriate methodology. Collects and synthesizes information to inform problem solving in familiar contexts.

#### **c) Critical self-awareness and personal literacy**

Understanding how one learns, the ability to assess the work of oneself and others, and to identify one's strengths and weaknesses. The ability to take responsibility for personal and professional learning, identifying opportunities for lifelong learning and developing oneself as a versatile, adaptable and confident practitioner. The ability to relate to other people and function collaboratively in diverse groups and situations.

#### **d) Digital and information literacy**

The functional access, skills and practices necessary to become a confident, agile, adopter of a range of technologies for personal, academic and professional use. To be able to use appropriate technology to search for high-quality information; critically evaluate and engage with the information obtained; reflect on and record learning, and professional and personal development; and engage productively in relevant online communities.

#### **e) Active citizenship**

Students prepared to actively engage with both local and global communities. The ability to understand the local and global context of one's work. Awareness of diverse perspectives, cultures and values and the confidence to question one's own perspective and those of others. Informed about issues of equity, sustainability and social justice.

## **Graduate Attributes**

Every undergraduate programme will include the development of the following five core graduate attributes:

### **a) Academic literacy**

Disciplinary and professional knowledge and skills, understanding the epistemology and 'landscape' of the discipline, and what it means to think and behave as a member of that disciplinary and/or professional community of practice.

### **b) Research literacy**

Ability to be a critical consumer of research, and also, where possible, to design and undertake at least a small-scale research project in the discipline, using appropriate methodology.

### **c) Critical self-awareness and personal literacy**

Understanding how one learns, the ability to assess the work of oneself and others, and to identify one's strengths and weaknesses. The ability to organise oneself and perform as an autonomous, effective and independent learner. The ability to relate to other people and function collaboratively in diverse groups, including the development of appropriate interpersonal skills, emotional intelligence and adaptive expertise.

### **d) Digital and information literacy**

The functional access, skills and practices necessary to become a confident, agile adopter of a range of technologies for personal, academic and professional use. To be able to use appropriate technology to search for high-quality information; critically to evaluate and engage with the information obtained; reflect on and record learning, and professional and personal development; and engage productively in relevant online communities.

### **e) Active citizenship**

Students prepared to proactively engage with both local and global communities. Knowledge of the local and global perspectives of one's discipline. Critical awareness of the complexity of diverse perspectives, cultures and values and the ability to question one's own perspective and those of others. Ability to use knowledge and skills to improve society through actively engaging with issues of equity, sustainability and social justice.

## **Postgraduate Attributes**

Every postgraduate programme or element of, should include the development of a range of the following five core postgraduate graduate attributes as appropriate to the discipline:

### **a) Academic literacy**

Advanced disciplinary and professional knowledge and skills moving beyond the emerging professional to becoming an expert member of the relevant community. This should include the ability to engage in current critical debates within the discipline and the ability to communicate complex ideas to both expert and non-expert audiences, even in the absence of a complete set of data.

### **b) Research literacy**

The ability to design and undertake a research project in the discipline, use appropriate methodology and solve complex problems in novel situations. Awareness of current research within the discipline, and the ability to critically evaluate it.

### **c) Critical self-awareness and personal literacy**

Demonstrate commitment to continuous self-improvement. To include the ability to lead and organise self and others; take personal responsibility in unpredictable and complex situations; make sound and appropriate decisions; to inspire and interact with others in diverse environments.

### **d) Digital and information literacy**

The functional access, skills and practices necessary to become a confident, agile adopter of a range of technologies for personal, academic and professional use. To be able to use appropriate technology to search for high-quality information; critically to evaluate and engage with the information obtained; reflect on and record learning, and professional and personal development; and engage productively in relevant online communities.

### **e) Active citizenship**

Students prepared to lead both local and global communities. Knowledge of the local and global perspectives of one's discipline. Critical awareness of the complexity of diverse perspectives, cultures and values and the ability to question one's own perspective and those of others. Ability to use knowledge and skills to improve society through actively engage with issues of equity, sustainability and social justice.

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