

HWU GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES



HWU Graduate Attributes

Heriot-Watt has in place a **series of Four 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 values of Heriot-Watt University; they also take account of the HW graduate characteristics which the University's *Strategy 2025* 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 currently being revised to reflect HWU approaches to Learning to Learn (spring 2019) and will provide a guide for disciplines to develop their own more specific descriptors.

Embedding the Graduate Attributes

The Graduate Attributes form a core part of the University's Learning and Teaching Strategy 2018-2025, which states "The development of the Four HWU Graduate Attributes will be embedded in all undergraduate and postgraduate taught programmes, and all students will have the opportunity to develop the Attributes."

<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 Academic Quality 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.