

# Graduate Attributes



# Do more than just learn.

Your journey as a student at ARU London is a mix of both academic and professional development.

Academic knowledge, without professional skills and attitude is of little use; therefore, you must pay close attention to developing the latter, as much as you must focus on completing your academic studies. If you work hard at developing your professional skills and attitudes, you will find that your academic studies are easier to manage and, additionally, you will be ready to take on the graduate employment market on the completion of your degree.

Employers consistently tell us that they need graduates with the right attitude and interpersonal skills, which they often prioritise above knowledge of the job. They tell us that they are prepared to "hire for attitude, and train for skill"

Having consulted dozens of employers across all sectors, we have modelled their desired Graduate Attributes and distilled them into the four key themes shown here. To help you understand each of these themes and what they mean for you as an individual, we have broken them down into some key thoughts, feelings, and actions.

If you make note of these, and measure yourself against them in everything you do, you will enjoy success, both here at the university and in your professional life. These Graduate Attributes constitute our ethos here at ARU London and our staff will use them to guide you and advise you throughout your time with us.

The only person who can dictate your future success is you, and developing these Graduate Attributes so that they become a part of who you are is the key to ensuring that success.

# Take action - don't procrastinate.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

By taking responsibility, I can change.



### THINK

- This is MY responsibility
- I take responsibility for my actions, decisions, and their consequences



### FEEL

- I'm in control of myself
- I build trust and credibility with others



### ACT

- I am polite, respectful, trustworthy, and dependable
- I take ownership of mistakes and errors
- I implement helpful systems and habits to help me achieve
- I am enthusiastic and engaged

# Have a compelling story.

## ASPIRATION

I set goals and pursue them.

I seek personal growth, development, and achievement, to reach my full potential.



### THINK

- I consider my future
- I have a sense of purpose and I am willing to put in the effort required to turn my aspirations into reality



### FEEL

- I invest in my continued development
- I am a source of motivation and inspiration for others



### ACT

- Plan hard and soft skills learning as well as technical and communication skills
- I have a clear vision of what I want to achieve in life
- I am motivated and solutions focused
- I learn from challenges or obstacles

# Maintain an even temperament.

## AWARENESS

I am conscious of my own personality, strengths and weaknesses, and focused on the situation at hand.



### THINK

- My thoughts and actions have impact
- Paying attention to the world around me is important



### FEEL

- I am mindful of myself and others in decision-making, problem-solving, and communicating



### ACT

- I am reflective: I think about what happened and how I can improve
- I ask for help when I need it
- I am empathetic towards others, and give constructive feedback
- Actively listening, observing, and responding as appropriate

# Dress the part and act the part.

## AUTHENTICITY

Bring the best version of YOU.

I am comfortable in my own skin  
and confident in expressing myself.



### THINK

- I am a work in progress
- There's always room for improvement



### FEEL

- I don't have to pretend
- I have already come so far!
- I have a sense of inner peace and alignment with my true self



### ACT

- I know who I am
- I know what I am good at and celebrate achievements
- I know what I still need to work on
- I am true to myself, values, and my beliefs




Start today,  
and doors will  
open for you.

**These are the attributes that employers wish to see in potential employees.**

The Graduate Attributes are a reflection of how much you are able to exercise control; control over your emotions, control over your diary, and control over your career plan. The more you are able to control these things, the more authenticity you will display, and that authenticity will be demonstrated by your accountability in all matters, your aspiration to always achieve your best, and your awareness of yourself and others. You can achieve these things by making positive choices of behaviour at every opportunity.


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