University leavers lack the essential skills for work, employers warn

Large numbers of students are leaving university lacking the basic skills needed to get by in the workplace, according to new research.
Durham No.1 UK University for Graduate Employability

97.9% of our undergraduates completing their first degree are employed or in further study after 3.5 years (2017 DLHE data).
THE 'OLD' DURHAM AWARD

Assessment & Feedback

the Durham award
stand out from the crowd
Get recognition for your skills
Think about applying for the Durham Award in your final year of study (or if you are a taught postgraduate). Find out more from the Durham Award tab above.

Employability & Skills Quick Links
- Durham Award Handbook
- Making the Most of Your Masters: Postgraduate Skills Handbook
- Careers, Employability & Enterprise Centre

Make the most of your time at Durham

Make the Durham Skills Audit.

Complete the self-assessments to rate your confidence in our key Graduate Qualities and receive targeted feedback to help you develop your skills further.

Where to start...
1. Firstly, think about the key skills that it is important for you to develop. You may find that you already have experience of many of these.
2. Next, identify some opportunities to improve your skills. You’ll find plenty of opportunities both in the University and beyond.
3. Keep a record of your experiences and skills development. It is really important that you can explain what you learn and how you will develop your skills further.
4. Think about how to sell your skills and get recognition for your experiences.

Get ahead ... Maximise your Potential!
If you make the most of your opportunities you can leave Durham with much more than a degree… which is exactly what will help to set you apart in your future career.

Useful Resources
- NEW! Quick Guide to Referencing
- Basic Numeracy
- Creating Effective CVs
SELECTING THE CORRECT TOOL

Spoilt for choice...
WITHOUT EXPERIMENTATION THERE IS NO INNOVATION
Welcome to the Durham Award Workbook

The Durham Award recognises the skills and experience that students develop during their time at Durham. It is recognised by employers as a mark of excellence and helps students to make the most of their time here. All undergraduate students at Durham can complete the Durham Award.
“... really unique and a good way to articulate my experiences. It was a different way of illustrating how much I have grown at Durham.”