

# Embedding the UCC Graduate Attributes Programme

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# UCC

University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

HEA | HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY  
AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS

## Tomar Trust

National influence, Local implementation

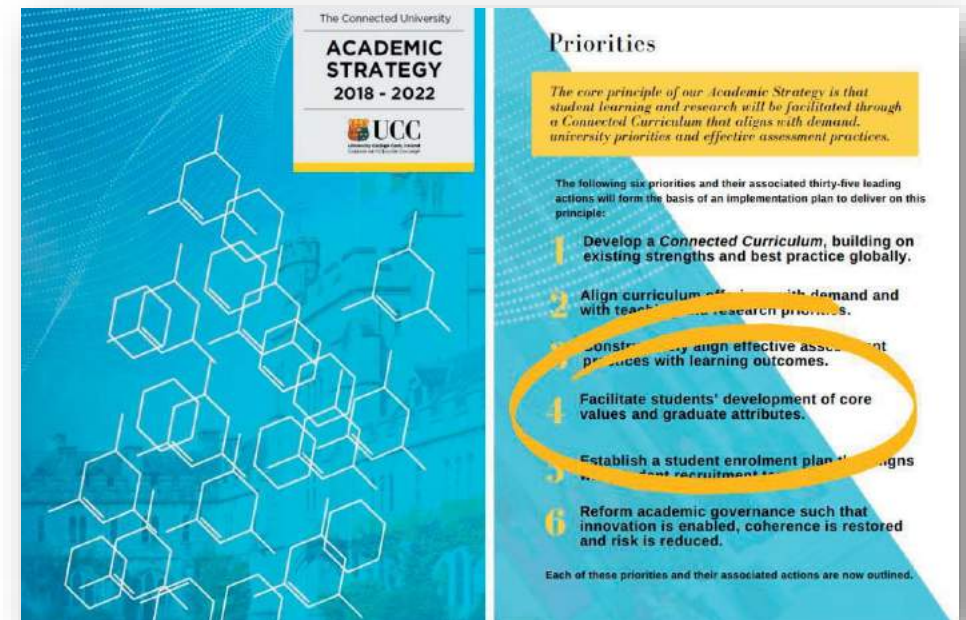
## GRADUATE

## ATTRIBUTES

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK



UCC's unique Graduate Attributes Programme is a highly transformative, student-centric suite of initiatives which will help students to **successfully navigate their transition in to, through and out of UCC**, enabling them to **begin, belong and become** the person they want to be. This programme prepares students to live, learn and lead in a shared, co-created future and enables them to take an active role in advancing the just and sustainable evolution of our communities, our society and our local and global economies. It **empowers students to create more value than they consume** and facilitates their acquisition of key graduate attributes and five values through curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular channels.



# ATTRIBUTES



Creators,  
evaluators and  
communicators  
of knowledge



Independent  
and creative  
thinkers



Digitally  
fluent



Socially  
responsible



Effective, global  
citizens who  
recognise  
and challenge  
inequality

# VALUES



**RESPECT:**  
For self, others and  
the environment



**AMBITION:**  
Aims high, displays  
exemplary work  
ethic and strives to  
succeed



**COMPASSION:**  
Empathetic,  
demonstrates  
care for self  
and others



**RESILIENCE:**  
Perseveres, shows  
capacity for  
problem-solving  
and personal  
well-being



**INTEGRITY:**  
Trustworthy,  
ethical  
and dependable





**TRANSITION  
IN**



**TRANSITION  
THROUGH**



**TRANSITION  
OUT**

### Key stakeholders:

- UCC Recruitment and Admissions
- UCC International Student Support
- Second Level Schools (Non-traditional) (DEIS)
- Homework Club (UCC Plus+)
- First Year Experience Coordinator
- College of Business and Law
- Cork University Business School
- College of Science, Engineering and Food Science
- College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Science

### Key stakeholders:

- Student Experience Units
- UCC Clubs and Societies
- Students Union
- Student Volunteer
- Green Campus
- Employability and Work Placement
- Library and Green Campus
- Skills Centre
- College of Business and Law
- Cork University Business School
- College of Science, Engineering and Food Science
- College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Science

### Key stakeholders:

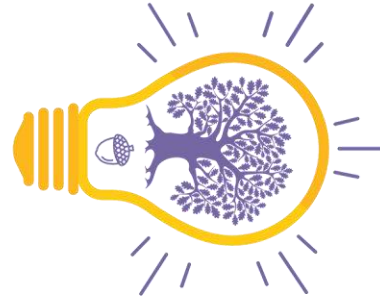
- UCC Career Services
- UCC EmployAgility
- Student Experience Offices
- UCC Students Union
- Skills Centre
- College of Business and Law
- Cork University Business School
- College of Science, Engineering and Food Science
- College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Science
- UCC Conferring's/ Graduation

*Second Level – Student Supports- Academic- Committees- Working Groups- Student Experience- Employability- Graduation*



## TRANSITION IN

## KEY OUTCOMES



NURTURING  
**BRIGHT FUTURES**

### Key stakeholders:

- UCC Recruitment and Admissions
- UCC International Student Support
- Second Level Schools (Non-traditional)
- Colleges and Schools

SIX MODULES INCLUDING...

Module 1:  
PICKING A COURSE THAT IS  
RIGHT FOR YOU



Module 2:  
DEGREE CHOICES  
& FUTURE CAREERS



10 REDUCED  
INEQUALITIES



Welcome Canvas & IT Graduate Attributes Skills Centre Library Exams Bystander Intervention Career Services

### STEPS TO THRIVE IN UNIVERSITY

- [Introduction to University life](#)
- [Working and studying from home](#)
- [Netiquette](#)
- [Settling into first year](#)
- [Building Relationships and Friendships](#)
- [Approaching Online Learning](#)
- [Minding your Health - Mental and Physical](#)
- [Setting goals to help you](#)
- [Developing a Growth Mindset](#)

### MONEY MATTERS

- [Managing money as you become a student](#)
- [How to prepare a budget](#)

### SUCCESS IT'S IN YOUR NATURE

- [What is Success: it's in your nature?](#)
- [UCC Arboretum](#)
- [Looped Walks](#)
- [Community Gardens](#)
- [The Glucksman Gallery](#)
- [Made2Move](#)
- [Nature Soundscapes](#)
- [Mindful Walking](#)
- [CUBA Project](#)
- [UCC Pollinator Plan](#)
- [Success, it's in your nature - Quiz](#)



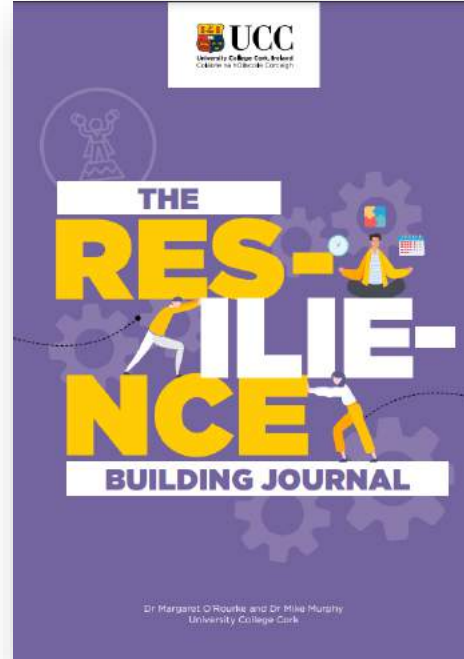


## TRANSITION THROUGH

# KEY OUTCOMES

### Key stakeholders:

- Student Experience Offices
- UCC Clubs and Societies
- UCC Students Union
- Green Campus
- Work Placement
- Boole Library
- Skills Centre
- Boolean PG Research Journal
- Colleges and Schools
- Student Volunteer



# THE BOOLEAN

3 GOOD HEALTH  
AND WELL-BEING



13 CLIMATE  
ACTION



## IN-PERSON LEARNING: MAKE THE MOST OF MY DEGREE



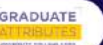
DOWNLOAD  
INFOGRAPHICS & WATCH  
VIDEOS TO HELP YOU  
MAKE THE  
MOST OF MY DEGREE



LEARN MORE HERE  
[UCC.IE/INPERSONLEARNING](http://UCC.IE/INPERSONLEARNING)



College of Business and Law  
Cork City Campus







# YOUR UCC GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES & VALUES COMPASS

PRESIDENT JOHN  
O'HALLORAN LAUNCHED YOUR  
COMPASS ON THE 20<sup>TH</sup>  
SEPTEMBER 2022



This is the signature project of the Graduate Attributes Programme and is the focus of Action 17 of our Academic Strategy. Your UCC Graduate Attributes and Values Compass (*Your Compass* for short) is the flagship initiative of the Graduate Attributes Programme. In partnership with multiple academic and professional services units across the university, the self-assessment and accompanying learning experiences have been created to support and facilitate students in the development of their attributes and values. The student self-assessment has been developed by colleagues in the School of Applied Psychology who led the validation of the items to measure the ten graduate attributes and values. Each year after registration, all current UG and PG students will be invited to take the self-assessment and engage with the learning experiences.



The *Your Compass* launch video provides a guide to the self-assessment and e-learning platform

MORE INFORMATION: [WWW.UCC.IE/YOURCOMPASS](http://WWW.UCC.IE/YOURCOMPASS)







## KEY OUTCOMES

### Key stakeholders:

- UCC Career Services/UCC EmployAgility
- UCC Students Union
- Skills Centre
- Colleges and Schools
- UCC Conferring/ Graduation Ceremony

## EMPLOYAGILITY



Internship  
pathway



Research  
pathway



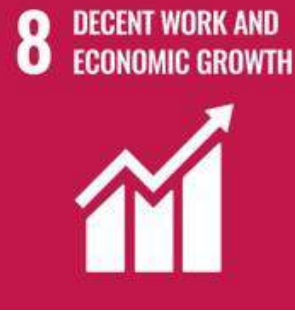
Volunteering  
pathway



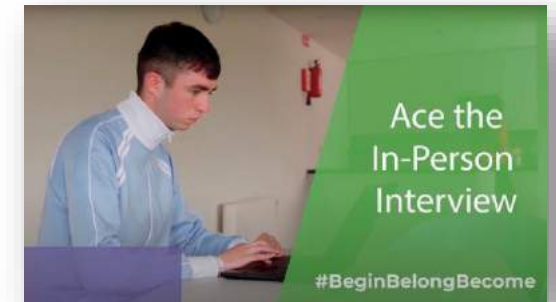
Student Life  
pathway



Open pathway  
(combined  
participation)



CareerSet







# The future: curriculum

- Embedding in the curriculum
  - Development of a Programme evaluation tool
  - Teaching staff: Continuing Professional Development Series (CPD) (Digital Badge)
  - Embed in Curriculum Management System
  - Staff Recognition Award: recognise best practice and excellence

Steering  
Committee

Content  
Creators

Student  
Forum

10  
module  
CPD

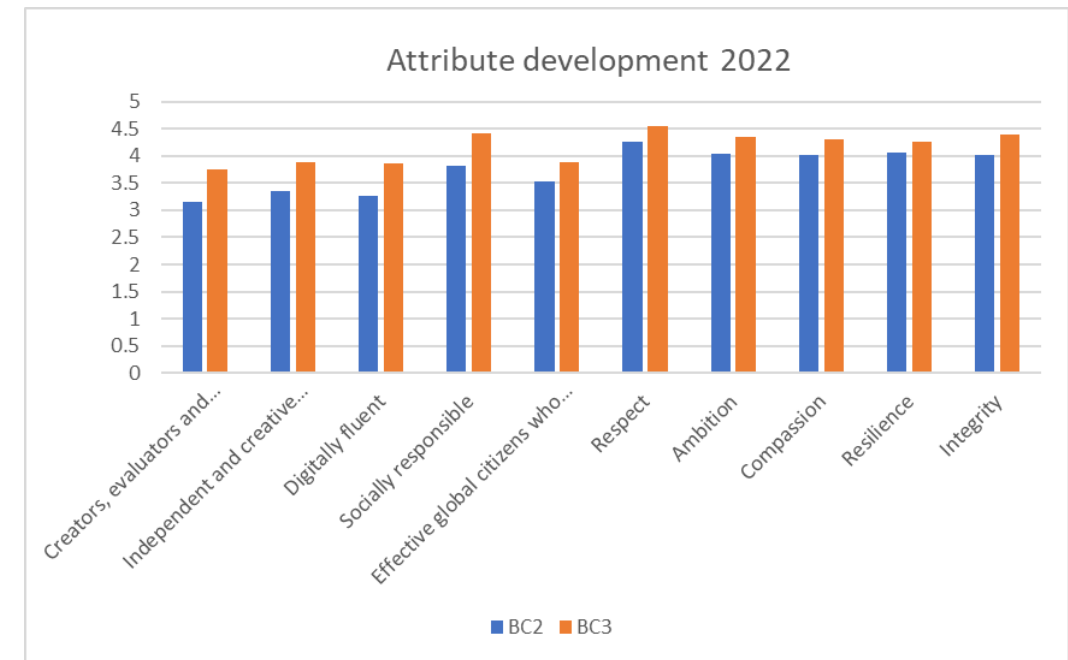
Working  
Group

# GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES PROGRAMME

## CASE STUDIES OF BEST PRACTICE IN UCC



### BU2001: Commerce



Module element (BU2001 assessment)	Detail	Targeted Attribute
<b>Careers focused research portfolio (50%)</b>  (Comprises of eight building blocks and reflective critique/learning)	Block 1: Critique a high-profile businessperson that inspires you and who you would wish to emulate in your own career?	Creators, evaluators, and communicators of knowledge Independent and creative thinkers Ambition, Integrity
	Block 2: "True success is born from failure that doesn't kill you". Discuss this statement using life of historic figure/businessperson to support your argument	Creators, evaluators, and communicators of knowledge Independent and creative thinkers Ambition, Resilience, Integrity
	Block 3: Resilience: Critique what, why and how in terms of a modern career and how your life experience demonstrates your own personal resilience?	Creators, evaluators, and communicators of knowledge Independent and creative thinkers Respect, Ambition, Compassion, Resilience, Integrity





# GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES PROGRAMME

## CASE STUDIES OF BEST PRACTICE IN UCC



### DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

University College Cork - National University of Ireland, Cork  
**BA (Hons) Economics (through Transformational Learning)**  
**EC3137: Creativity as a Developmental Resource**

**BEGIN, BELONG, BECOME**  
**Cultivating Creativity to Embed**  
**Graduate Attributes in UCC Conference**

Participants are being asked to consider how using what they identify as relevant aspects of the integrated lenses of the *5As of Creativity*, the *4Cs of Creativity*, *Investment Theory of Creativity*, *Incentives*, *Self-Determination Theory* and *Crowding Theory* can help the University to design curricula and extra-curricular activities to explicitly consider person-centred and context-centred factors in a manner that most appropriately either

i) Explicitly embeds creativity as a Graduate Attribute in the Student Experience

Or;

ii) Employs the conceptual lenses on 'creativity' to creatively embed other Graduate Attributes into the Student Experience.



FOR MORE INFO

[www.ucc.ie/graduateattributes](http://www.ucc.ie/graduateattributes)

[graduateattributes@ucc.ie](mailto:graduateattributes@ucc.ie)

+353 21 490 3127

FOLLOW US



**#BeginBelongBecome**

**GRADUATE**  
**ATTRIBUTES**

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK

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**UCC**

University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh