UGM Manchester

Graduate Ethos



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Do more than just learn

Your journey as a student at UGM Manchester is a mix of both academic and professional development.

Academic knowledge, without professional skills and a professional 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 Ethos and distilled it 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. This Graduate Ethos constitutes our culture here at UGM Manchester and our staff will use it to guide you and advise you throughout your time with us.

The only person who can dictate your future success is you, and developing this Graduate Ethos so that it becomes 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.

This then, is the ethos that employers say they wish to see in potential employees.

Essentially, the Graduate Ethos is 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. Start today, and doors will open for you.

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