Rachael Hudspeth, Ed.D. Office of Assessment and Accreditation

In 2020, AAC&U asked executives and hiring managers (n = 496) from a wide variety of industries to rank the skills they felt were most important for college graduates to have. The chart below shows how employers ranked those skills and how they align with UHD's General Education Common Core Learning Outcomes. The largest percentage of employers ranked teamwork (62%) as very important, followed by critical thinking (60%). The full AAC&U report can be read <u>here</u>.

UHD General Education Core Outcomes	AAC&U Workforce Skills	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important
Abili	ty to communicate through writing	54%	36%	10%
Written & Oral Communication	Ability to communicate through speaking/presentation skills	52%	41%	7%
	Critical thinking skills	60%	35%	5%
Ability to locate, evaluate, and use information in decision making		53%	40%	7%
Ability to integrat	te ideas/information across settings and contexts	51%	42%	7%
Critical Thinking - Inquiry Analysis/ Creative Thinkin		53%	39%	8%
Empirical &	Ability to analyze and interpret data	57%	34%	8%
Quantitative	o work with numbers and statistics	52%	38%	10%
Personal Responsibility	Ethical judgment and reasoning	54%	37%	9%
Ability to co	ommunicate/work with people from different cultural backgrounds	53%	36%	10%
Social Responsibility	Civic skills/civic engagement	41%	42%	16%
Teamwork	Ability to work effectively in teams	62 %	31%	7%

Where are the Common Core Learning Outcomes emphasized?

Communication	Critical Thinking	Empirical & Quantitative Skills			
Communication English 1301/1302 Mathematics Language, Philosophy, & Culture Creative Arts American History	Creative Arts American History Social & Behavioral Sciences	Mathematics Life & Physical Sciences			
Personal Responsibility Social Responsibility		Teamwork			
English 1301/1302 Language, Philosophy, & Culture	Government/Political Science Social & Behavioral Sciences				
The complete list of Common Core courses can be found <u>here</u> .					
Other skills desired by employers					
Application of knowledge/skills in real-world settings	Digital literacy	Ability to demonstrate complex problem- solving skills			

Finley, A. (2021). How college contributes to workforce success: Employer views on what matters most. Association of American Colleges and Universities. <u>https://dgmg81phhvh63.cloudfront.net/content/user-photos/Research/PDFs/AACUEmployerReport2021.pdf</u>