



# UNPACKING STUDY ABROAD INTO CAREER SUCCESS

## Expertise in Labour Mobility








Useful Notes and Sources



[www.labourmobility.com](http://www.labourmobility.com)



## Benefits of an international study environment to an individual student:

-  Become aware that people from different cultures and geographic backgrounds do things differently
-  Learn to work in multi-cultural team
-  Expand your network
-  Learn and improve languages
-  Become more flexible and adaptable
-  Look for creative solutions
-  Become self-aware and more open to ambiguity

## How to turn your study abroad experience into career success?

	Criteria	Indicator written application	Indicator interview
<b>Maturity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* ability to handle failures/mistakes</li> <li>* level of coping skills</li> <li>* tolerance towards uncertainty</li> <li>* puts things into perspective</li> <li>* considers different opinions</li> <li>* personal responsibility</li> <li>* willingness to stand for his/her opinion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* CV with different experiences in life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* reflections to provocative or surprising questions</li> <li>* self-evaluation</li> <li>* reflections on/explanations of success and failure in life</li> </ul>
<b>International orientation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* aware of cultural differences</li> <li>* knowledge of the country of destination (labour market possibilities?)</li> <li>* eager to be exposed to other cultures (both abroad and at home)</li> <li>* open mindedness</li> <li>* tolerance towards others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* previous stays abroad</li> <li>* statements that reveal knowledge of country and/or labour market</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* handling of prejudices</li> <li>* analysis of cultural differences</li> <li>* interest of international issues</li> <li>* Curiosity</li> </ul>
<b>Language skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* knowledge of the language</li> <li>* level of fluency: spoken level and written level</li> <li>* potential in second/third foreign language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* documentary evidence of qualifications</li> <li>* certificates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* fluency understanding</li> <li>* test!</li> </ul>
<b>Interpersonal skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* good ambassador for home culture</li> <li>* flexibility/adaptability</li> <li>* sociability</li> <li>* eager to learn from others</li> <li>* teamwork ability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* teamwork and leadership experience (voluntary work counts too, as do holiday and student jobs for school leavers/recent graduates)</li> <li>* extracurricular activities ('why's and how's in CV')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* appearance</li> <li>* presentation</li> <li>* self-confidence without arrogance</li> <li>* awareness of/attitude towards social issues</li> </ul>
<b>Communication skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* coherent argumentation</li> <li>* ability to convey a message clearly and convincingly</li> <li>* ability to motivate</li> <li>* listen carefully</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* structure and wording of CV and application letter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* convincing presentation</li> <li>* coherent argumentation</li> <li>* good listener</li> <li>* body language</li> </ul>
<b>Practical skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* good problem solver</li> <li>* motivation</li> <li>* persistence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* extracurricular activities ('why's and how's in CV')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* analysis of/solutions to problems</li> <li>* interest in culture/country/city of destination</li> <li>* awareness and motivation</li> </ul>

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## Useful Links and Sources:

Find out what skills employers are looking for in recent graduates:

<https://www.labourmobility.com/employer-insights-what-gets-your-students-hired/>

Top 10 skills for the future workplace:

<https://careerprofessor.works/top-10-skills-for-the-future/>

Employers are looking for global talent

<https://www.labourmobility.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/International-Business-Consumers-of-Global-Talent-Ripmeester.pdf>

For a more creative Brain, Travel:

<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2015/03/for-a-more-creative-brain-travel/388135/>

### Employability Formula

$$E = (Q + FE + S) \times C$$

Employability = (Qualification + Foreign Experience + Skills) x Contacts

### 5 things to keep in mind

Before starting searching for jobs: <https://careerprofessor.works/5-things-wish-knew-starting-job-hunt/>

Before choosing an internship: <https://careerprofessor.works/5-things-wish-knew-choosing-internship/>

Before sending your CV: <https://careerprofessor.works/5-things-wish-knew-cv-writing/>

Before writing a cover letter: <https://careerprofessor.works/5-things-i-wish-i-knew-before-writing-my-cover-letter/>

Before having a Skype Interview: <https://careerprofessor.works/5-things-wish-knew-skype-interview/>

Before returning to your home country: <https://careerprofessor.works/5-things-wish-knew-returning-home-country/>

### Work cultures in...

South Africa: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-south-africa/>

Canada: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-canada/>

Brazil: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-brazil/>

China: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-in-china/>

US: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-united-states/>

UK: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-uk/>

Germany: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-in-germany/>

Russia: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-russia/>

India: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-india/>

Australia: <https://careerprofessor.works/work-culture-in-australia/>

### Social media and your career

How to use LinkedIn for a job search: <https://careerprofessor.works/5-things-wish-knew-using-linkedin-job-search/>

Personal Branding I: <https://careerprofessor.works/personal-branding-i-5-reasons-to-write-guest-blog-posts/>

Personal Branding II: <https://careerprofessor.works/personal-branding-ii-using-social-media/>

Personal Branding III: <https://careerprofessor.works/personal-branding-iii-the-virtues-of-a-personal-website/>

Personal Branding IV: <https://careerprofessor.works/personal-branding-iv-not/>

Social media use while job hunting: <https://careerprofessor.works/five-tips-posting-social-media-job-search/>

### 3 reasons why things don't go your way

Your international job hunt fails: <https://careerprofessor.works/3-reasons-international-job-hunt-fails/>

Your job interview fails: <https://careerprofessor.works/3-reasons-job-interview-fails/>

You suck at networking: <https://careerprofessor.works/3-reason-suck-networking/>

For more information on how to **build your career abroad** take a look at our career guides here:

<https://www.labourmobility.com/shop/> & make sure to follow our blog: <https://www.labourmobility.com/category/blog/>, to find everything you need to know about **living and working abroad**.

Visit [CareerProfessor.works](https://careerprofessor.works) for information on **student employability** and to find out what your university can do for your career, as well as our blog at [careerprofessor.works/blog/](https://careerprofessor.works/blog/) for **careers advice and intercultural tips**.

*"If you compare apples to apples, we hire the one with the global experience"* multinational employer in an [article](#) discussing what global employers look for in international hires.

## CREATING A POWERFUL CV

### HOW DOES IT LOOK?

#### APPEARANCE

- ANY TYPOS???
- TOO CRAMPED?
- WHITE SPACE IN BALANCE?
- DENSE PARAGRAPHS?
- HOW ABOUT CONSISTENCY?
- IS IT NEATLY ALIGNED?

### MAKE SURE...

#### CHECKLIST

##### PERSONAL DETAILS

- Name prominent at the top in a big font?
- Appropriate personal details for the country you are applying to?
- Brief and sharp profile summary without first person pronouns?

##### EDUCATION

- Are your qualifications listed in a strict reverse chronological order?
- Are the location and duration of each qualification easy to locate?

##### WORK EXPERIENCE

- Are you listing by job title/function rather than by company/organization?
- Are your power verbs in the correct tense?
- Have you included keywords?
- Are the rest of your skills/qualifications under a logical & inclusive title?

**Is all information relevant? If something has no specific purpose, then it should not be on your CV!**