

Title: Humanities student: Learn to recognize your skills!

Target audience: Humanities students at higher education institutions

Suggested channel: Intranet

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The ASSET-H skills profile gives you the vocabulary to describe your skills relevant to working life and a starting point to reflect on your professional identity.

A research-based skills profile based on humanities students' own perceptions

The ASSET-H research team asked 1300 humanities master's students from three European universities to evaluate the extent to which they acquired certain skills during their education. The result of this research is the ASSET-H skills profile for employability of humanities graduates. It describes the unique combination of skills and competences that in unison make up the skill set of humanities graduates.

The skills profile lists 70 skills that are divided into 6 skills clusters:

- Knowledge & information
- Communication
- Language
- Project
- Creativity
- Interculturality

For example, "I can easily reduce large amounts of information to a coherent, concise whole" as an information & knowledge skill; "I do not hesitate to take the initiative myself to ensure the success of a project" as a communication skill; and "I can interpret facts in their cultural context" as an interculturality skill. See the [ASSET-H website for the full skills profile](#).

Of course, not all humanities students are alike. Each one possesses their own strong points and career interests. However, as a humanities student you are likely to thrive in some of the skills areas listed in the skills profile.

Now it is your turn: Learn to recognize your skills!

Explore your skills and put them in context of your career journey through reflection and writing activities. The [H-you: Humanities Explorer website](#)

contains activities taking from 15 minutes to a maximum of three hours to complete, each focusing on different objectives and phases in your career journey.

To take steps towards shaping your professional career, it is important to have an idea of what skills you have so you can explain what sets you apart. For example, are you highly skilled in communication, or do you excel at organizing and structuring information? The [Humanities Profile Explorer activity](#) will help you understand your core strengths through self-assessment. Take the skills test to get your personalized skills profile based on your answers to the questionnaire.

About the ASSET-H project

The three-year Erasmus+ project ended in August 2023. Research showing that humanities graduates take longer than graduates of other faculties to enter the work force served as an initial call to action. The project aimed to enhance the transition of humanities students into working life. The project was led by KU Leuven and project partners were University of Leiden, University of Helsinki, and the employment agency Randstad Belgium.

Project outputs:

- ASSET-H skills profile for the employability of humanities graduates
- H-Highlight: workshop to articulate humanities skills in your course design for teaching staff
- H-You: your humanities skills explorer for students and alumni.

The final year of the project involved widespread dissemination of the project outputs and training sessions for students, faculty teaching staff, student career advisers and HR-professionals. The communications plan on the ASSET-H website offers downloadable communications resources. Help spread the word to humanities students and graduates all over Europe. You can do this by publishing our materials on your channels and social media platforms - be it your own private account or that of your institution.