Employers recognize capacities that cut across majors as critical to a candidate’s potential for career success, and they view these skills as more important than a student’s choice of undergraduate major.

Top Skills:

- Critical thinking and analytical reasoning skills
- Analyze and solve complex problems
- Effectively communicate both orally and in writing
- Ability to apply knowledge and skills to real-world settings
- Ability to locate, organize, and evaluate information from multiple sources
- The ability to innovate and be creative
- Teamwork skills and the ability to collaborate with others in diverse group settings
- The ability to connect choices and actions to ethical decisions

Employers place the greatest degree of importance in the following areas:

**Ethics:** “Demonstrate ethical judgment and integrity”

**Intercultural Skills:** “Comfortable working with colleagues, customers, and/or clients from diverse cultural backgrounds”

**Professional Development:** “Demonstrate the capacity for professional development and continued new learning”

Employers like candidates whose undergraduate requirements included:

- Developing research questions in their field and evidence-based analyses
- Completing a project prior to graduation that demonstrates acquired knowledge in their major and their acquisition of analytical, problem solving, and communication skills
- Completing an internship or community-based field project connecting classroom learning with real-world experiences
- Developing the skills to conduct research collaboratively
- Acquiring hands-on or direct experience with the methods of science
- Working through ethical issues and debates to form their own judgments about the issues at stake
- Learning how to solve problems with people whose views are different from their own