



QUESTIONNAIRE ON UNIVERSITY PROVISION
OF GENERIC SKILLS TRAINING IN
AQUACULTURE, FISHERIES & MARINE SCIENCES:
UNIVERSITY TEACHERS

1. PURPOSE OF THIS SURVEY

To evaluate the current provision of generic skills training at university level for students in aquaculture, fisheries and other marine sciences, in terms of its suitability for (a) the degree programme studied and (b) the workplace. In particular, to identify gaps in training provision and improve the skills base.

Under the general heading “generic skills” we consider a wide range of research, workplace and life skills that are not specific to any one discipline, including languages, communication, scientific methodology, IT and management.

Your answers to our questions will be of great value in evaluating and improving the provision of generic skills training in the aquaculture, fisheries, marine science and management sectors.

Please complete this version of the questionnaire if you are a university teacher or researcher who teaches generic skills

2. DATA PROTECTION

Please note that, in order for us to process any personal data that you submit, we need to ask you to complete and sign the declaration below.

All information received from you will be used for statistical purposes only and will be treated as completely confidential. No individual questionnaire will ever be identified in any material published from this survey nor will any of the data obtained be passed on to any other party.

“I hereby give my permission for the storage and use this information under the UK Data Protection Act 1998.”

Name	
Signature	
Date	

Thank you very much for your assistance

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3. Personal data

Please complete all sections that are relevant to you

Sex	Male / female
Age	
Nationality	
Native language	
Country where you currently work/study	
Profession	
Job title	
Employer's name	
At what level do you teach (mainly)?	BSc / MSc / PhD / other
In which country did you complete your most recent degree?	
Name of the university	
Degree type	BSc / MSc / PhD / other
Degree duration in years	
Degree title or subject	
Is/was it full-time or part-time?	
Did your degree involve distance learning?	Yes / no / in part
What language(s) were used for teaching in degree?	
Year of graduation	

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4. Questions about the suite of generic skills

Q1. "This skill is important". Do you strongly agree (SA), agree (A), neither agree nor disagree (N), disagree (D) or strongly disagree (SD)? *(Please tick one answer per skill)*

GENERIC SKILLS	SA	A	N	D	SD
Numerical, computational, statistical skills					
• Mathematics					
• Statistical methods					
• Statistical software					
• Models and simulations					
IT skills					
• Office software (word processing, e-mail, spreadsheet, presentation)					
• Web page design					
• Information literacy (Endnote, SCOPUS etc)					
• IT communication (Skype, web forums)					
Scientific methods					
• Philosophy of science (hypotheses, logic, induction, debating)					
• Experimental design					
• Data management					
• Research ethics					
• Critical review					
Practical/management skills					
• Project management					
• Time management					
• Team management					
• Budget management					
• Team working					
• Laboratory skills (best practice)					
• Risk assessment(safety in lab and fieldwork)					
• Awareness of legal and procedural issues (licensing of animal research, health and safety, data protection, anti-discrimination)					
Communication skills (scientific and general)					
• Literacy in own language					
• Knowledge of English (if not first language)					
• Knowledge of other languages					
• Oral presentation					
• Thesis defence					
• Poster presentation					
• Networking					
• Effective behaviour in the workplace					
• Scientific writing (papers, theses, abstracts, essays)					
• Media communication					
Career and life skills					
• CVs, job applications, interviews					
• Grant applications, research funding					
• Career development planning					
Science in society					
• Interdisciplinary studies					
• Policy awareness					
• Entrepreneurship / business awareness / innovation					
Practical skills					
• Sector specific (Fish handling, survival at sea, boat handling, diving)					
• General (First aid, driving)					

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Q2. Are these skills currently taught at your university? Yes, I teach them (YI) / Yes, although I don't teach them (YO) / No / Don't know (DK). *Please answer in relation to the level (BSc, MSc, PhD) at which you normally teach.*

GENERIC SKILLS	YI	YO	NO	DK
Numerical, computational, statistical skills				
• Mathematics				
• Statistical methods				
• Statistical software				
• Models and simulations				
IT skills				
• Office software (word processing, e-mail, spreadsheet, presentation)				
• Web page design				
• Information literacy (Endnote, SCOPUS etc)				
• IT communication (Skype, web forums)				
Scientific methods				
• Philosophy of science (hypotheses, logic, induction, debating)				
• Experimental design				
• Data management				
• Research ethics				
• Critical review				
Practical/management skills				
• Project management				
• Time management				
• Team management				
• Budget management				
• Team working				
• Laboratory skills (best practice)				
• Risk assessment(safety in lab and fieldwork)				
• Awareness of legal and procedural issues (licensing of animal research, health and safety, data protection, anti-discrimination)				
Communication skills (scientific and general)				
• Literacy in own language				
• Knowledge of English (if not first language)				
• Knowledge of other languages				
• Oral presentation				
• Thesis defence				
• Poster presentation				
• Networking				
• Effective behaviour in the workplace				
• Scientific writing (papers, theses, abstracts, essays)				
• Media communication				
Career and life skills				
• CVs, job applications, interviews				
• Grant applications, research funding				
• Career development planning				
Science in society				
• Interdisciplinary studies				
• Policy awareness				
• Entrepreneurship / business awareness / innovation				
Practical skills				
• Sector specific (Fish handling, survival at sea, boat handling, diving)				
• General (First aid, driving)				

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- Q3. If taught, how are these skills taught: in separate module(s) (mod), integrated into knowledge-based module(s) (int), as work experience (we), ad-hoc (ah) or other (oth)?
Please answer in relation to the level (BSc, MSc, PhD) at which you normally teach.

GENERIC SKILLS	MOD	INT	WE	AH	OTH
Numerical, computational, statistical skills					
• Mathematics					
• Statistical methods					
• Statistical software					
• Models and simulations					
IT skills					
• Office software (word processing, e-mail, spreadsheet, presentation)					
• Web page design					
• Information literacy (Endnote, SCOPUS etc)					
• IT communication (Skype, web forums)					
Scientific methods					
• Philosophy of science (hypotheses, logic, induction, debating)					
• Experimental design					
• Data management					
• Research ethics					
• Critical review					
Practical/management skills					
• Project management					
• Time management					
• Team management					
• Budget management					
• Team working					
• Laboratory skills (best practice)					
• Risk assessment(safety in lab and fieldwork)					
• Awareness of legal and procedural issues (licensing of animal research, health and safety, data protection, anti-discrimination)					
Communication skills (scientific and general)					
• Literacy in own language					
• Knowledge of English (if not first language)					
• Knowledge of other languages					
• Oral presentation					
• Thesis defence					
• Poster presentation					
• Networking					
• Effective behaviour in the workplace					
• Scientific writing (papers, theses, abstracts, essays)					
• Media communication					
Career and life skills					
• CVs, job applications, interviews					
• Grant applications, research funding					
• Career development planning					
Science in society					
• Interdisciplinary studies					
• Policy awareness					
• Entrepreneurship / business awareness / innovation					
Practical skills					
• Sector specific (Fish handling, survival at sea, boat handling, diving)					
• General (First aid, driving)					

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Q4. If this skill is taught, is it compulsory or optional? *Please answer in relation to the level (BSc, MSc, PhD) at which you normally teach.*

GENERIC SKILLS	Compulsory	Optional
Numerical, computational, statistical skills		
• Mathematics		
• Statistical methods		
• Statistical software		
• Models and simulations		
IT skills		
• Office software (word processing, e-mail, spreadsheet, presentation)		
• Web page design		
• Information literacy (Endnote, SCOPUS etc)		
• IT communication (Skype, web forums)		
Scientific methods		
• Philosophy of science (hypotheses, logic, induction, debating)		
• Experimental design		
• Data management		
• Research ethics		
• Critical review		
Practical/management skills		
• Project management		
• Time management		
• Team management		
• Budget management		
• Team working		
• Laboratory skills (best practice)		
• Risk assessment(safety in lab and fieldwork)		
• Awareness of legal and procedural issues (licensing of animal research, health and safety, data protection, anti-discrimination)		
Communication skills (scientific and general)		
• Literacy in own language		
• Knowledge of English (if not first language)		
• Knowledge of other languages		
• Oral presentation		
• Thesis defence		
• Poster presentation		
• Networking		
• Effective behaviour in the workplace		
• Scientific writing (papers, theses, abstracts, essays)		
• Media communication		
Career and life skills		
• CVs, job applications, interviews		
• Grant applications, research funding		
• Career development planning		
Science in society		
• Interdisciplinary studies		
• Policy awareness		
• Entrepreneurship / business awareness / innovation		
Practical skills		
• Sector specific (Fish handling, survival at sea, boat handling, diving)		
• General (First aid, driving)		

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- Q5. For these skills, is the level of attainment satisfactory in incoming students (yes/no)?
Is the level of attainment satisfactory in outgoing students (yes/no)? *Please answer in relation to the level (BSc, MSc, PhD) at which you normally teach.*

GENERIC SKILLS	INCOMING		OUTGOING	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Numerical, computational, statistical skills				
• Mathematics				
• Statistical methods				
• Statistical software				
• Models and simulations				
IT skills				
• Office software (word processing, e-mail, spreadsheet, presentation)				
• Web page design				
• Information literacy (Endnote, SCOPUS etc)				
• IT communication (Skype, web forums)				
Scientific methods				
• Philosophy of science (hypotheses, logic, induction, debating)				
• Experimental design				
• Data management				
• Research ethics				
• Critical review				
Practical/management skills				
• Project management				
• Time management				
• Team management				
• Budget management				
• Team working				
• Laboratory skills (best practice)				
• Risk assessment(safety in lab and fieldwork)				
• Awareness of legal and procedural issues (licensing of animal research, health and safety, data protection, anti-discrimination)				
Communication skills (scientific and general)				
• Literacy in own language				
• Knowledge of English (if not first language)				
• Knowledge of other languages				
• Oral presentation				
• Thesis defence				
• Poster presentation				
• Networking				
• Effective behaviour in the workplace				
• Scientific writing (papers, theses, abstracts, essays)				
• Media communication				
Career and life skills				
• CVs, job applications, interviews				
• Grant applications, research funding				
• Career development planning				
Science in society				
• Interdisciplinary studies				
• Policy awareness				
• Entrepreneurship / business awareness / innovation				
Practical skills				
• Sector specific (Fish handling, survival at sea, boat handling, diving)				
• General (First aid, driving)				

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Q6. Is proficiency in these skills examined (yes/no)? Do staff seek feedback from students in relation to the effectiveness of training (yes/no)? *Please answer in relation to the level (BSc, MSc, PhD) at which you normally teach.*

GENERIC SKILLS	EXAMS		FEEDBACK	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Numerical, computational, statistical skills				
• Mathematics				
• Statistical methods				
• Statistical software				
• Models and simulations				
IT skills				
• Office software (word processing, e-mail, spreadsheet, presentation)				
• Web page design				
• Information literacy (Endnote, SCOPUS etc)				
• IT communication (Skype, web forums)				
Scientific methods				
• Philosophy of science (hypotheses, logic, induction, debating)				
• Experimental design				
• Data management				
• Research ethics				
• Critical review				
Practical/management skills				
• Project management				
• Time management				
• Team management				
• Budget management				
• Team working				
• Laboratory skills (best practice)				
• Risk assessment(safety in lab and fieldwork)				
• Awareness of legal and procedural issues (licensing of animal research, health and safety, data protection, anti-discrimination)				
Communication skills (scientific and general)				
• Literacy in own language				
• Knowledge of English (if not first language)				
• Knowledge of other languages				
• Oral presentation				
• Thesis defence				
• Poster presentation				
• Networking				
• Effective behaviour in the workplace				
• Scientific writing (papers, theses, abstracts, essays)				
• Media communication				
Career and life skills				
• CVs, job applications, interviews				
• Grant applications, research funding				
• Career development planning				
Science in society				
• Interdisciplinary studies				
• Policy awareness				
• Entrepreneurship / business awareness / innovation				
Practical skills				
• Sector specific (Fish handling, survival at sea, boat handling, diving)				
• General (First aid, driving)				

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5. General questions about generic skills

Are there any important skills missing from the list in section 4 above?	Yes / no
If yes, please list them	
What % of their study time at university do you think students should spend on generic skills training?	
<p>“These teaching methods are effective”.</p> <p>Do you: strongly agree (SA), agree (A), neither agree nor disagree (N), disagree (d), strongly disagree (SD) or don't know?</p>	
Lecture	SA / A / N / D / SD / don't know
Tutorial (small group discussion)	SA / A / N / D / SD / don't know
Practical exercises (computer-based/laboratory/fieldwork)	SA / A / N / D / SD / don't know
Work experience	SA / A / N / D / SD / don't know
Role playing / Games	SA / A / N / D / SD / don't know
Self-learning	SA / A / N / D / SD / don't know
Is there monitoring of the quality of generic skills training that is provided in your university ?	Yes / no
How is quality monitored?	
Which <u>one</u> thing would you propose to improve generic skills training?	

Thank you! We greatly appreciate your assistance in this research.