

# **A Menu of Graduate Skills – The Specification of Degree Level Skills for Construction and Surveying Students**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This paper discusses research work undertaken at APU to identify and recognise the skills developed by construction and surveying students. Although students do develop a range of skills while studying at university, these are often not formally recorded or recognised. There is a rapidly growing need to formalise and identify these graduate skills. The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) are currently developing Benchmark statements for construction and surveying students. This work will add to the debate.

From the research work it is proposed to establish a universally accepted menu of undergraduate skills appropriate to both the conventional academic mode of study and the increasingly important work-based learning environment. The focus of the research is the development of a Skills Menu which groups undergraduate competency under the headings of Key Academic Skills, Generic Cognitive Skills, and Personal and Professional Skills (See Appendix I). This menu is then matched against current learning and assessment strategies at APU. The paper concludes by an evaluation of the Skills Menu by academic staff, recent surveying graduates and employers.

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