



Competencies for Food Graduate Careers

PhD or other Postgraduate Research Role

2nd Edition
June 2023

This is not a taught course, and it largely takes place in an academic institution.

The focus is on self-directed research activity towards gaining a final qualification.



Typical Role Names

PhD Student(ship)

MRes (usually 1-2 years)

MPhil

DTP (Doctoral Training Partnership)

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There are standards for the technical content of UK Food Sciences degrees; but there are more aspects you can develop to support success in the workplace. Industry have outlined what they think may be the most valuable additional skills, knowledge and behaviours for 14 typical graduate roles & this is one of them.

So, what is desirable for a PhD or other Postgraduate Research role?

Desirable Elements for this Role

Academic Expertise
Acceptance of Ambiguity
Adaptability
Collaboration
Critical Thinking
Handling Data
Independence

Initiative
Innovation
Passion for Subject
Planning and Organising
Questioning Approach
Resilience
Self-Motivated

This material has been developed with industry involvement to support graduates, employers and degree educators. <https://www.ifst.org/resources/competencies-food-graduate-careers>

Find out about more technical graduate roles in the food industry & what may be best suited to you in developing your career with our partners: