



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
Careers Service

Embedding career preparation in academic programmes. Responding to what students want?

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Careers Service

Inspiring futures



What students tell us

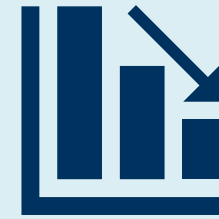


Developing knowledge & skills to pursue career is 2nd highest motivation at pre-arrival.



36% of UG finalists have plan confirmed

22% of UG finalists in earliest phases of career planning



Graduate destinations for UoE are falling. Our UG graduates have seen a sustained period of decline in the quality of their destinations

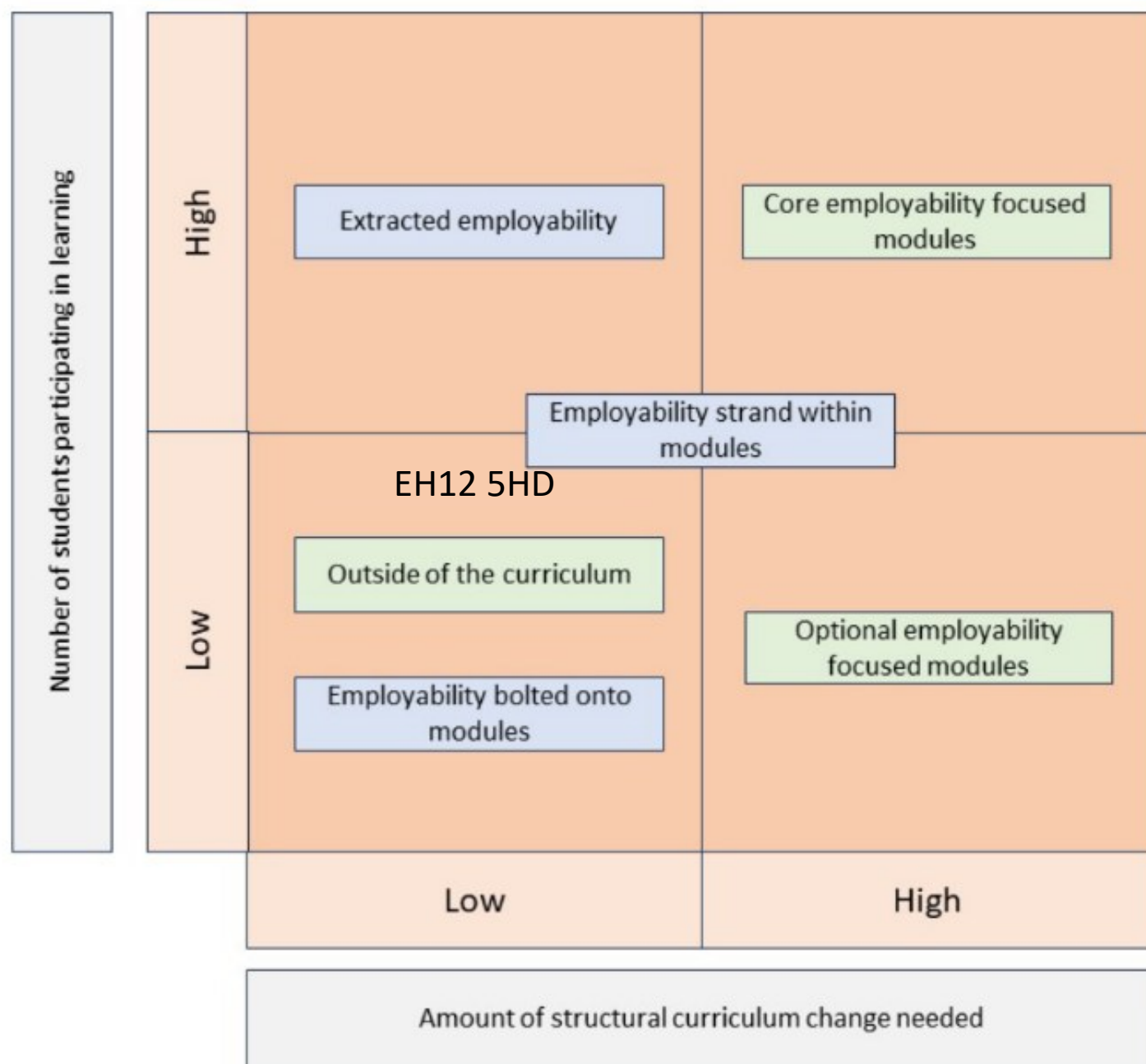


1 in 4 UGs and 1 in 3 PGTs tell us they do not think university prepares them for future career



Options for delivering career learning

Aim: Structurally unavoidable and meaningful/connected to academic studies



- For credit
- Connected to subject
- With Learning Outcomes
- Assessed

Key to colour coding
Easier to cover a wide range of employability topics but harder connect to the overall curriculum
Harder to cover a wide range of employability topics but easier to connect to the overall curriculum



Example 1: Maths - Making the Most of University

What: as part of pre-honours curriculum review integrated employability directly, combined with a programme of extra-curricular activities tailored for Mathematics students. Including 2 timetabled sessions led by Careers Service

Who: School of Maths. Pre-honours with careers sessions early in year 1 and late in year 2. In year 1 focus is on Making the Most of university and in year 2 there is a focus on reflection

Content:

- Why planning ahead is important
- Options for building experience throughout university
- Ways to generate career plans



Example 2: Languages Beyond University

What: course applying academic learning and using subject expertise in the community. Students will be able to demonstrate how they have used their experiences to actively develop skills and use learning on the course to increase employability

Who: School of LLC. UG2 students studying European Languages and Cultures.

Content: Timetabled session 'analysing graduate skills' in-person workshop helping students to reflect on this experiential learning before they write reflective essays



Example 3: Frontiers in Chemical Engineering

What: Reflecting on key choices students will need to make. EG: choosing optional courses; BEng v MEng pathways; Raising awareness of skill development

Who: School of Engineering (Chemical Eng). UG2 students.

Content: 2 assignments: 1. Sector analysis of an industry choice. This coursework provided valuable insights into the career landscape for chemical engineers, helping students to assess potential pathways and the market dynamics and trends.

2. Develop a career plan. outlining personal short-term and long-term goals, including potential course options, required skills, and relevant experiences. Students will design strategies to engage with professionals, seek mentorship, explore internships and research opportunities in their areas of interest.

Example 4: ECA Design Agency

What: students work collectively towards a common objective based on ability, regardless of age or experience. Year 4 students have the opportunity to form their own design agencies. They will create their own brand for the agency and advertise vacancies at all levels, from interns to senior designers. Students in junior years are interviewed and appointed to these roles.

Who: BA(Hons) Graphic Design students. Input into all 4 years

Content:

Preparing for Design Agency applications (Yr 1 and 2 workshop)

Using Design Agency to help with career planning (Yr 3)

Making the Most of Design Agency (for Yr4 agency 'directors')

Review Yourself/Review Others (effective feedback session for Yr 4)

Who are you now? Considering your professional identity (Yr 4)

Where are you now? (final design agency careers session for Yr 4)

Continue the discussion

- Speak to one of our team: Each School has a linked Careers Consultant who can advise on embedding career learning in a way that works for your students.
- Look at our resources for staff on Career Everywhere:
<https://uoe.sharepoint.com/sites/CareerEverywhere>
- Ask us questions now

