

Graduate Studies Mission, Vision & Competencies

Revised to be aligned with the JJC strategic plan

Approved by the Graduate Studies Council – November 9, 2020

Mission

Graduate Studies at John Jay College educates our students for ethical and professional leadership as fierce advocates for justice. We empower them to pursue careers in the public, private and nonprofit sectors, and provide them with specific competencies that will assist them to be a successful part of both the academic and professional workforce.

Our graduate faculty seeks to build knowledge and skills and inform professional practices that can transform social inequalities and build a more just society.

Our staff creates a supportive community that embraces equity and accountability.

Graduate Studies at John Jay College delivers our programs with unique emphasis on justice, diversity and inclusion.

Vision

- Be an engine for social mobility and equity.
- Educate students to be fierce advocates for justice in a rapidly changing future.
- Support world-class research and a justice-minded faculty.
- Prepare students for careers in laboratories, government, nonprofit, and private sector industries and give them the tools needed for leadership positions in all of these callings.
- Create a supportive community with integration of faculty and administration.

What are graduate student competencies?

- Competencies are combinations of knowledge, skills and attitudes that **students** develop and apply for successful learning, living and working. Competencies help **students** draw and build upon what they know, how they think and what they can do.
- Developing core competencies is at the heart of graduate education and can be applied to multiple career paths.
- Competencies change with time as they must remain relevant to be effective.

Graduate Student Competencies

1. Critical Thinking & Research
2. Communication
3. Leadership & Management
4. Professionalism & Ethics
5. Global Intercultural Fluency
6. Advocacy & Justice
7. Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Graduate Student Competencies

1. Critical Thinking and Research

- Critical Thinking. Gather and articulate information from different sources and use it to solve problems and make decisions effectively.
- Analysis. Independently analyze information using research and logic.
- Research. Develop and maintain qualitative and quantitative research skills to advance knowledge.

Graduate Student Competencies

2. Communication

- **Writing.** The ability to write well in a variety of genres to different audiences. You may learn how to write seminar papers, theses and research publications. Strong writing skills are expected in the workplace.
- **Oral Communication.** Through research presentations in seminars, lab group meetings, or at professional conferences, or through explaining concepts while speaking, communication skills are vital for success in a wide variety of academic and professional careers.
- **Digital Media & Technology.** Knowing how to use digital media and technology is increasingly important for building a professional network and communicating your ideas. Creating an online professional presence is beneficial for building professional identity, networking with others in relevant careers and enhancing visibility.

Graduate Student Competencies

3. Leadership & Management

- Ethical Leadership. Gain the ability to professionally guide a team to accomplish goals while helping the team members along to the finish line.
- Vision. Learn about how leaders can lead an inclusive process to develop a shared vision.
- Management. Acquire the ability to collect relevant information, analyze it, and propose creative solutions
- Evaluation and feedback. Provide and incorporate feedback.

Graduate Student Competencies

4. Professionalism & Ethics

- Professionalism. Learn how to explore field- and career-specific expectations of work preparation and ethics, as well as best practices for work/life balance in any career.
- Values. Exhibit competency, reliability, and respectfulness.
- Ethics. Make conscious decisions with a commitment to fairness. Act responsibly considering legal standards as well as economical, ecological, and social consequences of their decisions.

Graduate Student Competencies

5. Global Intercultural Fluency
- Inclusiveness. Demonstrate inclusiveness and sensitivity towards all people.
 - Collaboration. Analyze complex global challenges, to collaborate respectfully and effectively with people from diverse backgrounds across the world.

Graduate Student Competencies

6. Advocacy & Justice

- Action. Take action to support, defend, or plead on behalf of others. An effective advocate listens to his/her audience and learns from them.
- Engagement. Advocate for a goal that can lead to policy improvements.
- Justice. Advance justice, which is the morally fair and right state of everything.

Graduate Student Competencies

7. Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship

- Encourage social innovation. Demonstrate willingness and courage to address complex social issues.
- Entrepreneurship. Develop the skill and ability to create social innovations, such as new products, services, and strategies that simultaneously meet a social need and advance public interest.

How does this fit together?

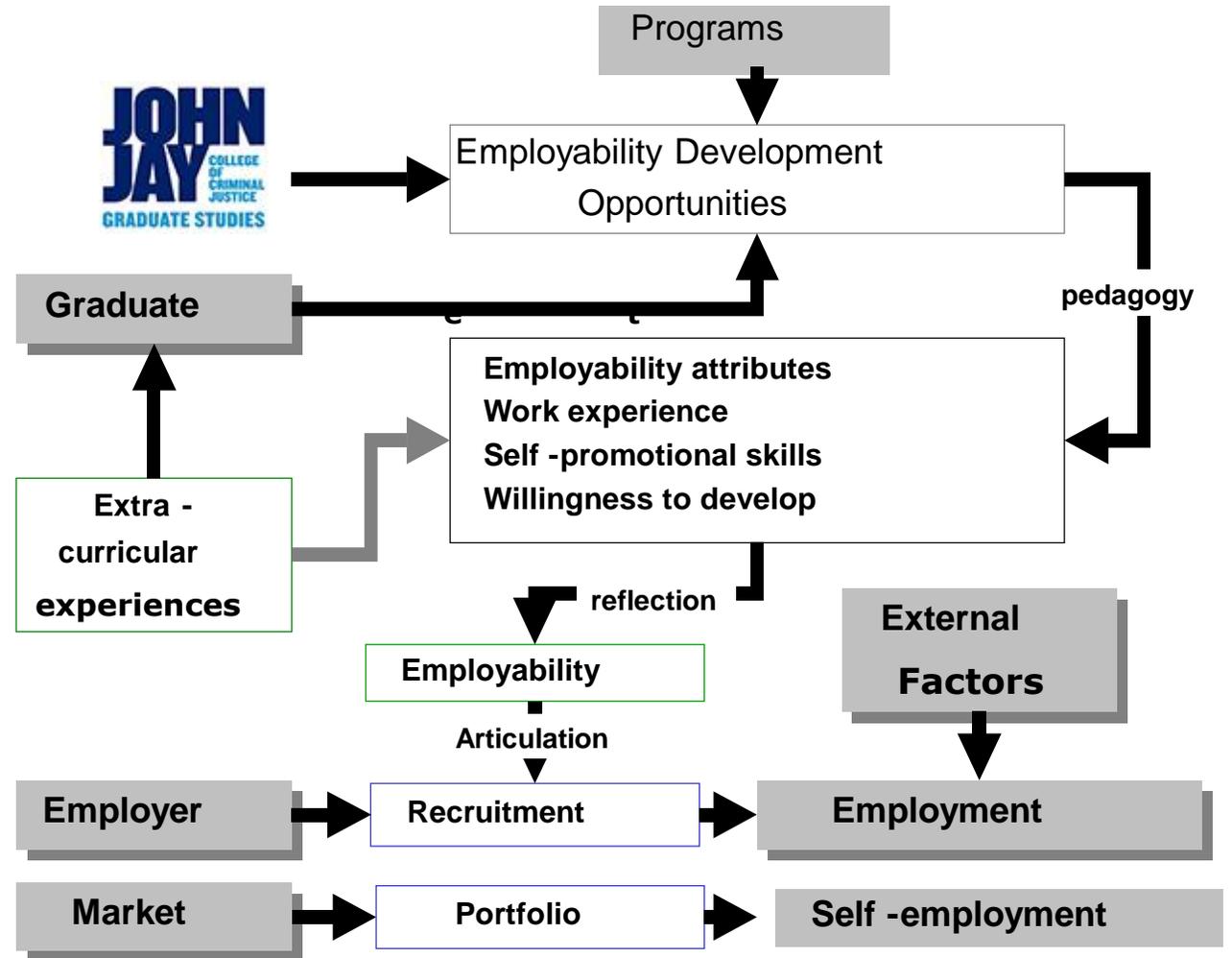


Figure 01: A model of graduate employability development *Source: Harvey (2002), employability and diversity*