



ACQUIRING SOFT SKILLS AT UNIVERSITY

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Abstract

In general the universities focus on teaching professional information rather than soft skills like creativity, problem solving, personal communication, writing and speaking skills. The students learn how to become an engineer, an accountant or a dentist, but they don't learn soft skills. Without soft skills, every university graduate faces too much trouble in their professional live. With university education, the graduates can practice their profession; they can design a machine, they can cure an illness, they can develop economic growth models but cannot communicate effectively, do teamwork or solve problems. Hence, thousands of dollars are spent for soft skills training in corporate life. Besides, these trainings are short and insufficient; and there occurs the cost of time and money because of lacking soft skills. University students should acquire soft skills before they graduate. In this study, the methods for students to acquire soft skills during their higher education will be evaluated.

Key Words: Acquiring soft skills, hard skills, skills training, contextual learning theory.