# Article information:

The Role of Work Experience in the Future Employability of Higher Education Graduates - Helyer - 2014 - Higher Education Quarterly - Wiley Online Library  
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/hequ.12055?saml_referrer=>

# Article summary:

1. Many graduates are struggling to find graduate-level work and break into their desired sectors, leading higher education institutions to focus on enhancing student employability through work experience.

2. Work experience, particularly through internships, is seen as a valuable way to enhance graduate employability and develop the skills that employers are looking for.

3. The article emphasizes the importance of adaptability and resilience in a rapidly changing job market, and highlights the need for graduates to strategically use the experiential learning gained from work experience to stand out to employers.

# Article rating:

Appears strongly imbalanced: The article is written in a biased or one-sided way, and the information it provides is not trustworthy enough to be considered a reliable source. You should consult other sources to find reliable information on the presented issues.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "The Role of Work Experience in the Future Employability of Higher Education Graduates" discusses the increasing focus on work experience as a means to enhance student employability. The author examines recent research and policy related to this agenda and evaluates a graduate internship program in a university in North East England.

One potential bias in the article is the emphasis on the positive impact of work experience on graduate employability. While the author acknowledges that many new graduates are underemployed and struggling to find graduate-level work, they primarily focus on the benefits of work experience without thoroughly exploring potential drawbacks or limitations. This one-sided reporting may give readers an incomplete understanding of the issue.

Additionally, the article lacks evidence to support some of its claims. For example, it states that internships contribute to enhancing graduate employability but does not provide specific data or studies to back up this assertion. Without supporting evidence, these claims may be seen as unsupported or promotional.

The article also fails to explore counterarguments or alternative perspectives. It presents work experience as a universally beneficial approach to enhancing employability without considering potential criticisms or challenges associated with internships. This lack of critical analysis limits the depth and balance of the article's discussion.

Furthermore, there is a lack of consideration for potential risks or negative consequences associated with relying heavily on work experience for employability. The article does not address issues such as unpaid internships, exploitation of interns, or limited access to internships for certain groups of students. By omitting these important considerations, the article presents a somewhat idealized view of work experience without acknowledging its potential drawbacks.

Overall, while the article provides some insights into the role of work experience in enhancing graduate employability, it is limited by its biases, lack of evidence for claims made, one-sided reporting, and failure to consider alternative perspectives and potential risks. A more balanced and comprehensive analysis would have provided a more nuanced understanding of this complex issue.

# Topics for further research:

* Criticisms of internships and work experience programs
* Negative consequences of relying heavily on work experience for employability
* Exploitation of interns in the workplace
* Limited access to internships for certain groups of students
* Unpaid internships and their impact on graduate employability
* Alternative approaches to enhancing graduate employability

# Report location:

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