

# Professional Identity



## WIL & owning and improving on your professional identity.

Here are some ways that you can keep owning and improving on your professional identity while undertaking Work integrated Learning (WIL) experience such as placement, industry project and other work related learning experiences. You need to think about:

- What you learnt from it, including skills, behaviours and attitudes, and how they can be used in your studies or for future roles after you graduate?
- What you did on your WIL experience that you can list on your resume? This includes tasks and responsibilities, projects, training and presentations.
- What you enjoyed or didn't enjoy and how this might influence future choices on work experience, electives and which jobs you might apply for?
- What challenges or obstacles you faced (expected and unexpected) and how you addressed them? These will be useful in future job interviews in even if you decide to pursue a different type of role to what your WIL experience involved.
- What you would do differently in the future to enhance your personal and professional development? Remember that can be either for other experiences within Australia, if you continue to travel or if you return home.

The DEAL model helps you to reflect by describing the experience, evaluating it and articulating your learning from it. Here are some questions to guide your reflection in each category:



### Personal career aspirations:

While engaged in different WIL experiences, consider your own career ambitions and the type of work you find engaging, challenging and rewarding. Personal career aspirations should showcase your professional identity.

### Think globally:

Consider how you might apply what you are learning in different global contexts and diverse cultural settings.



### Contribute to collaborative decision-making:

Join in workplace discussions where decisions are made. Listen and learn from others and offer your own ideas.

## Differentiate yourself from others:

You want to be noticed and stand out from the crowd. Contribute innovative ideas that show you are creative and motivated to consider new and different ideas.



## Learn from others:

Identify key colleagues with the skills and attributes you aspire to possess. Listen to and network with relevant people so you can learn from them.



## Reflect on your experiences:

Reflection personalises your learning experiences, facilitates transition of skills to different situations, and supports lifelong learning.



## Prioritise tasks and self-manage time and workload:

Your sense of self-efficacy will benefit from planning tasks and allocating timeframes for completion of tasks.