

## 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SKILL

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### **Abstract**

*21st century skills comprise skills, abilities, and learning dispositions that have been identified as being required for success in 21st century society and workplaces by educators, business leaders, academics, and governmental agencies. This is part of a growing international movement focusing on the skills required for students to master in preparation for success in a rapidly changing, digital society.*

*Until the dawn of the 21st century, education systems across the world focused on preparing their students to accumulate content and knowledge. As a result, schools focused on providing literacy and numeracy skills to their students, as these skills were perceived as necessary to gain content and knowledge. Recent developments in technology and telecommunication have made information and knowledge ubiquitous and easily accessible in the 21st century.*

*“The term 21st century skills refers to a broad set of knowledge, skills, work habits, and character traits that are believed— by educators, school reformers, college professors, employers, and others—to be critically important to success in today’s world.” In simple terms, 21st Century Skills refer to the skills that are required to enable an individual to face the challenges of the 21st century world that is globally-active, digitally transforming, collaboratively moving forward, creatively progressing, seeking competent human-resource and quick in adopting changes.*



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**Keyword:** skills, academics, educators

### **Introduction**

Since the early 1980s, a variety of governmental, academic, non-profit, and corporate entities have conducted considerable research to identify key personal and academic skills and competencies they determined were needed for the current and next generation.

The 21st century, education systems across the world focused on preparing their students to accumulate content and knowledge. As a result, schools focused on providing literacy and numeracy skills to their students, as these skills were perceived as necessary to gain content and knowledge. Recent developments in technology and telecommunication have made information and

knowledge ubiquitous and easily accessible in the 21st century. Therefore, while skills such as literacy and numeracy are still relevant and necessary.

The skills and competencies that are generally considered "21st Century skills" are varied but share some common themes. They are based on the premise that effective learning, or deeper learning, a set of student educational outcomes including acquisition of robust core academic content, higher-order thinking skills, and learning dispositions. This pedagogy involves creating, working with others, analyzing, and presenting and sharing both the learning experience and the learned knowledge or wisdom, including to peers and mentors as well as teachers.

- **Learning and innovation skills:** critical thinking and problem solving, communications and collaboration, creativity and innovation
- **Digital literacy skills:** information literacy, media literacy, Information and communication technologies (ICT) literacy
- **Career and life skills:** flexibility and adaptability, initiative and self-direction, social and cross-cultural interaction, productivity and accountability.

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The skills are geared towards students and workers to foster engagement; seeking, forging, and facilitating connections to knowledge, ideas, peers, instructors, and wider audiences; creating/producing; and presenting/publishing. The classification or grouping has been undertaken to encourage and promote pedagogies that facilitate deeper learning through both traditional instruction as well as active learning, project-based learning, problem based learning,

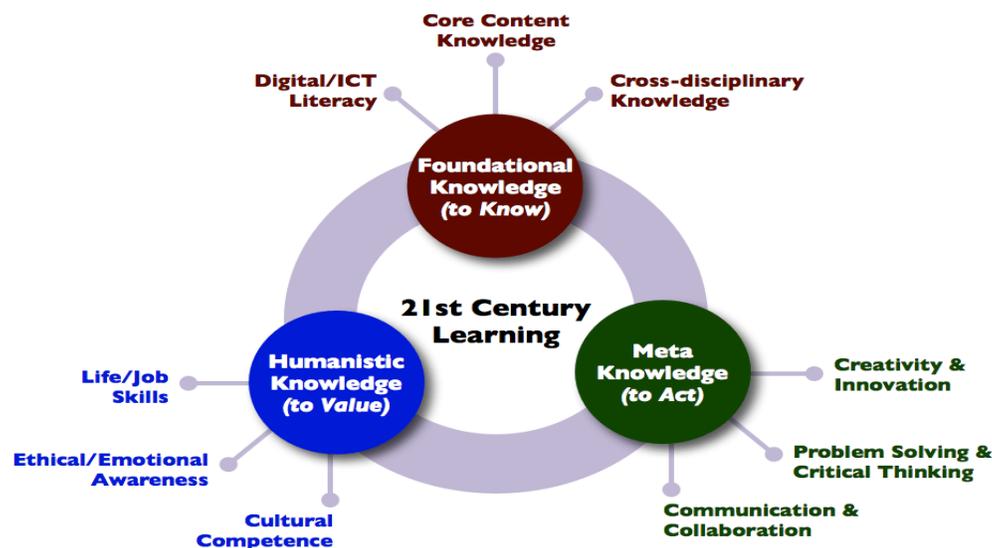
The report concluded that a high-performance workplace requires workers who have key fundamental skills: basic skills and knowledge, thinking skills to apply that knowledge, personal skills to manage and perform; and five key workplace competencies.

### **Fundamental Skills**

- **Basic Skills:** *reads, writes, performs arithmetic and mathematical operations, listens and speaks.*
- **Thinking Skills:** *thinks creatively, makes decisions, solves problems, visualizes, knows how to learn, and reasons*
- **Personal Qualities:** *displays responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, and integrity and honesty*

### National Research Council

The National Research Council of National Academies, the National Research defines 21st century skills, describes how the skills relate to each other and summaries the evidence regarding 21st century skills. “21st century skills,” the National Research Council identified three domains of competence: cognitive, interpersonal, and intrapersonal while recognizing that the three domains while different, are intertwined in human development and learning.



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The term **21<sup>st</sup> century skills** refers to a broad set of knowledge, skills, work habits, and character traits that are believed—by educators, school reformers, college professors, employers, and others—to be critically important to success in today’s world, particularly in collegiate programs and contemporary careers and workplaces. Generally speaking, 21<sup>st</sup> century skills can be applied in all academic subject areas, and in all educational, career, and civic settings throughout a student’s life.

### Conclusion

The designs of learning environments and curricula have been impacted by the initiatives and efforts to implement and support 21st century skills with a move away from the factory model school model and into a variety of different organizational models. Collaborative learning environments have fostered flexibility in furniture and classroom layout as well as differentiated spaces, such as small seminar rooms near classrooms.

### Reference

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