



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHÉ
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

Digital Tools for Graduate Employability: The University Skills Passport and Health Promotion Education in Galway, Ireland.

May 13th 2026

Dr Allison Dunne
Ms Brídín Quinn
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Dr Aoife Howard



Employability

“Recognising your own skills and the value of those skills can be a challenge for students entering the workforce.”

The USP is a ground-breaking approach to supporting students, enabling them to recognise their ‘soft’ skills and providing them with a platform to showcase those skills to potential employers.”

EMPLOYER: Caitlin Cooney, Principal Operational Excellence Engineer, Medtronic



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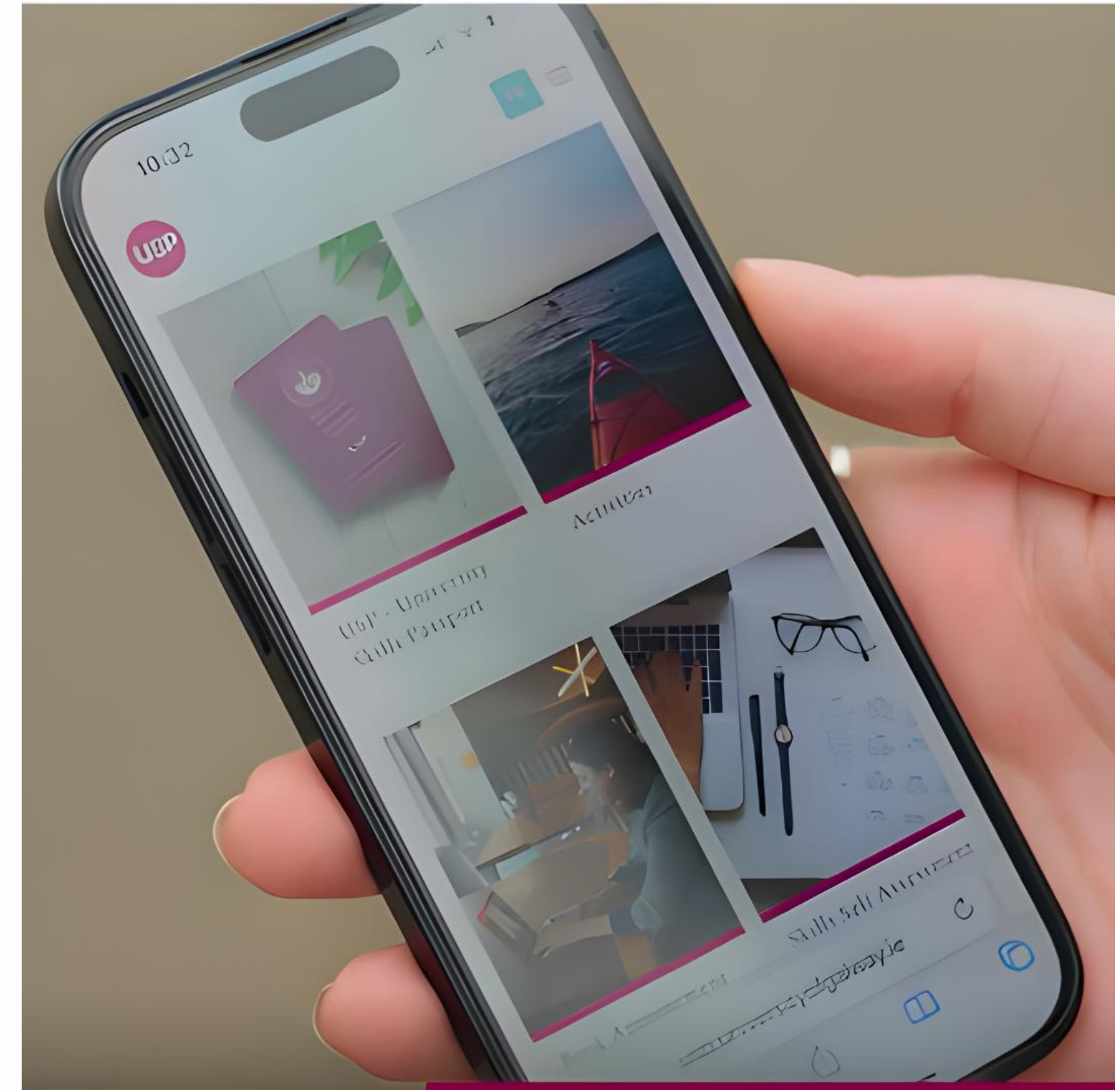


University Skills Passport

- Launched in 2025
- Accessed by students online and via mobile phone
- Curricular & extra-curricular activity badges

By March 2026...

- 9,458 students have University Skills Passports
- 19,088 badges awarded



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Health Promotion MA Badges

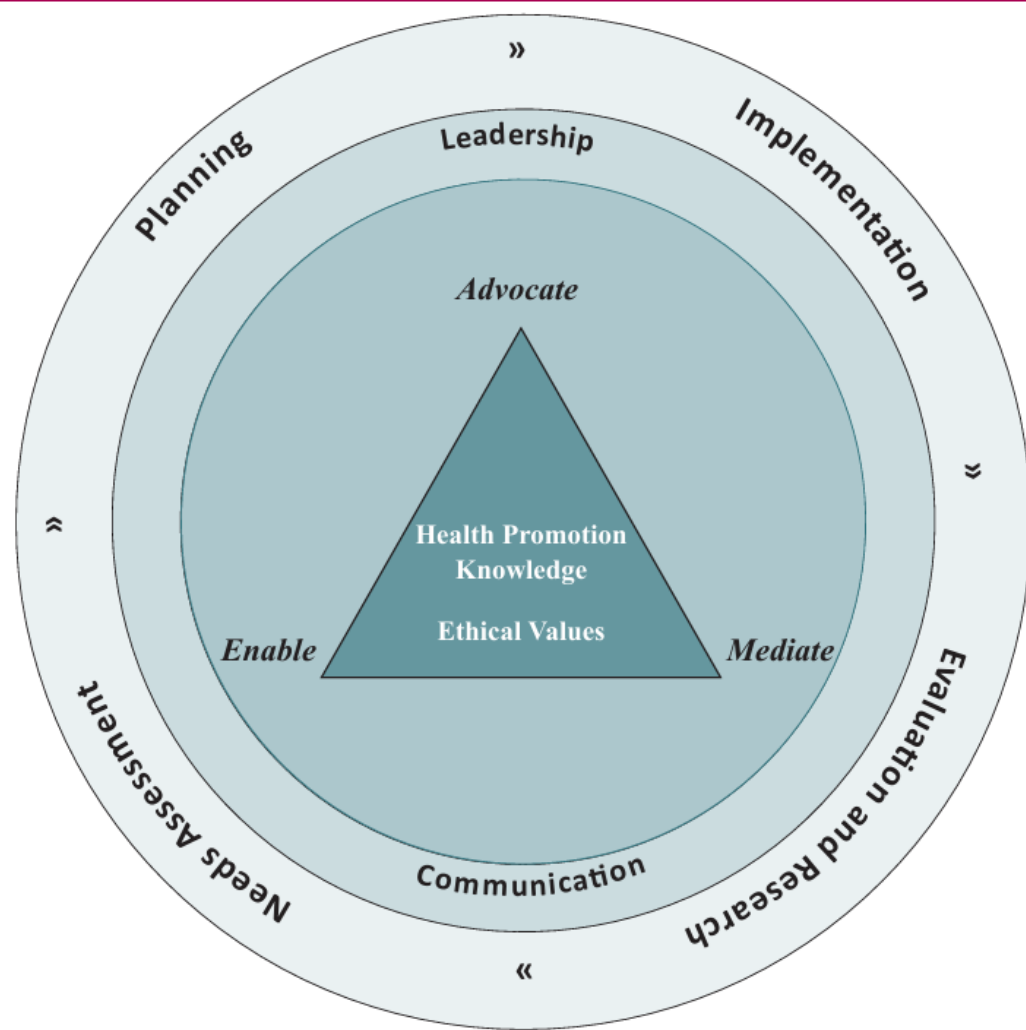



Figure 1: The CompHP Core Competencies Framework for Health Promotion




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Date:
1/1/2023

Min. Time
Commitment:
23 Hours

Expiry Date:
31/12/2025

Module Code:
HP1104



Breda O'Brien
Health Promotion Practice: Communication
Secondary description example

This badge recognises active participation in the Evidence Based Health Promotion Practice module, as part of the M/PGDip in Health Promotion. Guided by the COMP-HP Core Competencies Framework, students explore through practitioner-led workshops, and a supervised practice placement the essential knowledge, abilities, values and real-world skills necessary for the practice of health promotion. Communication is identified in COMP-HP as a core competency of health promotion practice. In this module, students develop confidence in communicating effectively using appropriate techniques and technologies for diverse audiences.

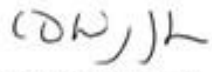
This badge demonstrates readiness to apply evidence-based approaches, professional standards, and effective communication in health promotion practice.

To earn this badge the student must:


- & Actively engage in a blended learning module on Evidence Based Health Promotion Practice.
- & Complete a work placement with a health promotion agency (minimum of 12 days).
- & Deliver a 10 minute presentation, to a group of peers, describing how their work placement addressed at least one of the core competencies for health promotion, as defined by the COMP-HP framework.


— Skills —

Communication | Confidence | Digital Skills | Ethical Awareness



Ciarán O hOgartaigh
President,
University of Galway























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Name: Breda O'Brien
Student ID: 23889211

Skills Summary [Cover](#) | [Summary](#) | [Skills](#) | [Engagement](#) | [Certificates](#)

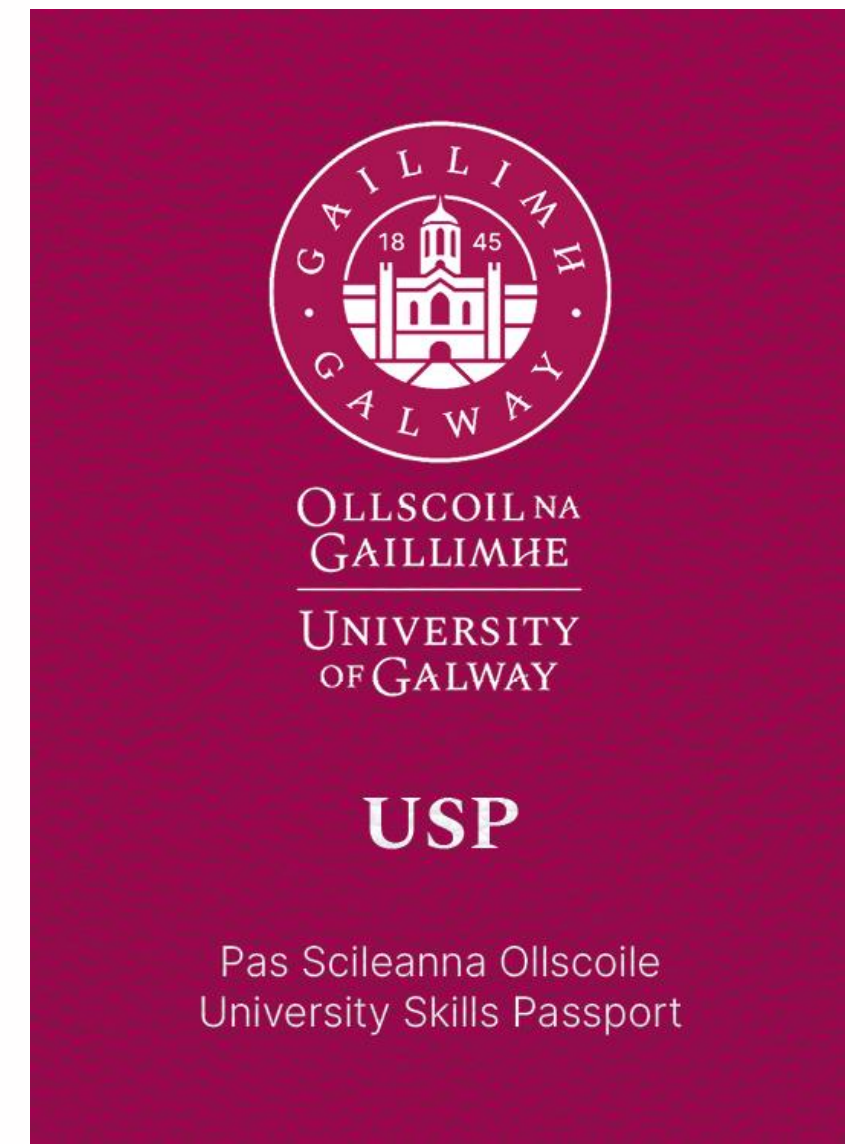
	Adaptability	
	Business Acumen	
	Communication	
	Confidence	
	Creative Agency	
	Critical Thinking	
	Curiosity	
	Digital Skills	
	Empathy	

Future plans

- Extend badges to cover all 9 HP competencies
- Use badges to promote extra-curriculars
- Consider Inter Professional Learning
- Evaluate the impact of USP on employability



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Thank you for listening

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<https://usp.universityofgalway.ie/ords/r/usp/usp/home>



References

Dempsey, C., Battel-Kirk, B., & Barry, M. M. (2011). *The CompHP Core Competencies Framework for Health Promotion Handbook*. International Union of Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE).

