



Live Study Results

**What are the Soft Skills that
industry wants from requirement
engineers?**

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Two Focus Groups

Starting point

Research on RE as professional occupation identified a list of soft skills that are wanted in job ads:

Language: English

Capacity for teamwork

Communication skills

Analytical skills

Self-confidence

Flexibility

Customer orientation/ Empathy with users

Willingness to travel

Self-organization

Question: Are these soft skills what practitioners observe in their real-life contexts?

Empirical Setup

- **1st Focus Group: 9 participants**
- **2nd Focus Group: 3 participants**





Results: skills that were not on the list

- Ability to deal with ambiguity
- Leadership: ability to influence
- Sense of humor
- Enthusiasm
- Willingness to make mistakes publically: “Fail Early and Fail Fast”
- Willingness to learn
- Honesty



Results: Top 2

1. **Communication: ability to listen**
2. **Team work**



Open Research Questions

- Which abilities can we teach in university courses?
- What is the impact of culture on the perceived importance of skills?
- We found that skills vary based on process: agile vs waterfall. We want to better understand this relationship.