Enhancing Employability in the “ME Generation*”

What are characteristics of the “ME generation”?

1. Computers are not technology but a part of their everyday lives
2. Internet is better than TV for news and information
3. Distrustful of information which causes a desire to test the validity of the information themselves
4. Prefer to do things rather than learning the rules first
5. Learn by making their own mistakes in a “recursive and continuous process”
6. Multitasking is considered fundamental to the workplace which develops a “non-linear style of communication”
7. Word-processing preferred over penmanship
8. Zero tolerance for delays
9. Fundamental need to stay continuously connected to each other
10. Consider their own opinions as valid evidence in any task

Learning Styles

- Experiential learning is the best way to reach this generation. Technical skills are less valued, with workplace experience perceived as of great importance.

- Key “soft skills” such as communication, the ability to work in a team and the ability to focus on the end product are regarded as being important by students.

*This refers to anyone born in the late 1980s and 1990s and thus completing their higher education and about to enter the workforce.

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