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Language data and project specialist – from an UPSKILLS profile to classrooms across Europe

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UPSKILLS Consortium:



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with financial support from



*Fit for the job market? Teaching transferable
skills to future language experts*

Graz, 5 July 2022

UPSKILLS IO1: The needs analysis

Overall objective: Exploring the gap between the knowledge and skills (typically) acquired at universities and those (commonly) required by the labour market

Six components:

1. A survey of curricula
2. A literature review
3. A corpus-based analysis of job advertisements
4. A questionnaire for the language industry
5. Interviews with industry representatives
6. A new profile for language and linguistics students

Language data and project specialist

- knowledge, skills and competences -

DISCIPLINARY

- Knowledge of specific languages
- Ability to conduct linguistic analysis
- Translation, interpreting, post-editing, localisation

(INTER)CULTURAL

- Awareness of specific cultural contexts and cultural differences
- Cultural agility

TRANSVERSAL

- Creative and innovative thinking
- Problem-solving skills
- Presentation skills
- Writing for different audiences



TECHNICAL

- Understanding and use of language technologies and resources
- Understanding of computational linguistics / NLP
- Knowledge of a programming language

DATA-ORIENTED

- Ability to collect, manage, curate, analyse language data
- Knowledge of statistics
- Familiarity with data standards

RESEARCH-ORIENTED

- Knowledge of research design
- Analytical, logical and hypothetical thinking
- Accessing and processing information critically

ORGANISATIONAL

- Entrepreneurship
- Project management
- Quality control
- Planning
- Teamwork

Language data and project specialist

- typical tasks and responsibilities -

Linguistic data collection

Transcription of audio files

Linguistic annotation

Language data exploration
and analysis

**DATA-
ORIENTED**

TECHNICAL



Translation, interpreting,
localisation, post-editing

Development, analysis and testing
of software and technological tools

Development, testing and
improvement of machine
learning models

Language data research

Research on business processes
and market needs

**RESEARCH-
ORIENTED**

ORGANISATIONAL

Communication with teams,
clients and/or vendors

Project management

Process evaluation

Reaching classrooms

→ I02-I03-I04

Integrating research into teaching
Learning/teaching materials
Games and gamification

RESEARCH SKILLS

Introduction to scientific research
Analytical thinking and problem solving
Project management

DATA HANDLING SKILLS

Introduction to machine learning
Data standards and repositories
Language data science



DATA ACQUISITION SKILLS

Introduction to programming
Text and speech processing
Collecting data from human subjects

CROSS-CUTTING COMPONENTS

Linguistic theory
Research management software



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Thank you!

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<https://twitter.com/UpskillsProject>

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