FAQs

How will Essential Skill Suites help my students build skills?

The course materials in a Skill Suite take a practice-centered approach to skill development and application. The online course is grounded in Harvard Business Impact's research and years of experience helping organizations develop their workforce. Simulations are a proven method for engagement in the academic space. Quick Cases place students in real-world scenarios where they test their decision-making around important human skills.

What is the benefit of using an Essential Skill Suite rather than a single learning experience within the Skill Suite?

While the complementary course materials in each Skill Suite can be used individually, combining them accommodates different learning and teaching styles while reinforcing skill development—creating a richer and more impactful learning experience.

I'm not sure I want to use all three learning experiences in the Essential Skill Suite. Can they be used on their own?

Yes, each one can be used individually, depending on course goals and student needs. The online course can be used asynchronously and helps students build foundational knowledge and practice their skills in a safe environment with AI-enabled feedback. Simulations provide opportunities for individual and group practice, followed by instructor-led class debriefs. Quick Cases encourage students to apply their skills through discussion and critical thinking in real-world scenarios.

Do you recommend a specific order for teaching the course materials in a Skill Suite?

The online course is a great place to start because it introduces core concepts and provides personalized AI-enabled feedback and opportunities for students to build confidence as they practice their skills. Then, build on that foundation with simulations and Quick Cases, which allow students to apply their skills to higher-stakes situations and learn from instructor-led debrief discussions. But they require different setup: Quick Cases need minimal preparation, while simulations require some technical setup.

What teaching support is available for the materials within the Skill Suite?

Online Courses include a facilitator guide outlining the structure and content of the course and suggestions for how to fit the learning experience into your class. Quick Cases provide teaching guides with discussion prompts and facilitation recommendations. Simulations include an extensive teaching note with use and debrief guidance, debrief slides, and a Quick Start Guide.

For which program levels are Essential Skill Suites most appropriate?

Essential Skill Suites are appropriate for courses where skill development is part of the curriculum, whether in undergraduate or graduate settings. They are especially useful for undergraduates who are learning how to navigate their academic careers and prepare for the workforce.

I noticed some simulations and Quick Cases already exist in the catalog. What is the difference between those and the ones within these Essential Skill Suites?

Within the Essential Skill Suites, simulations and Quick Cases are accompanied by new skill-focused teaching resources that align the experience to specific essential skill learning objectives. These resources include structured debrief guidance and discussion prompts designed to support reflection, practice, and skill development for students.