

NEVER STOP LEARNING!

Exploring the importance of continuous learning

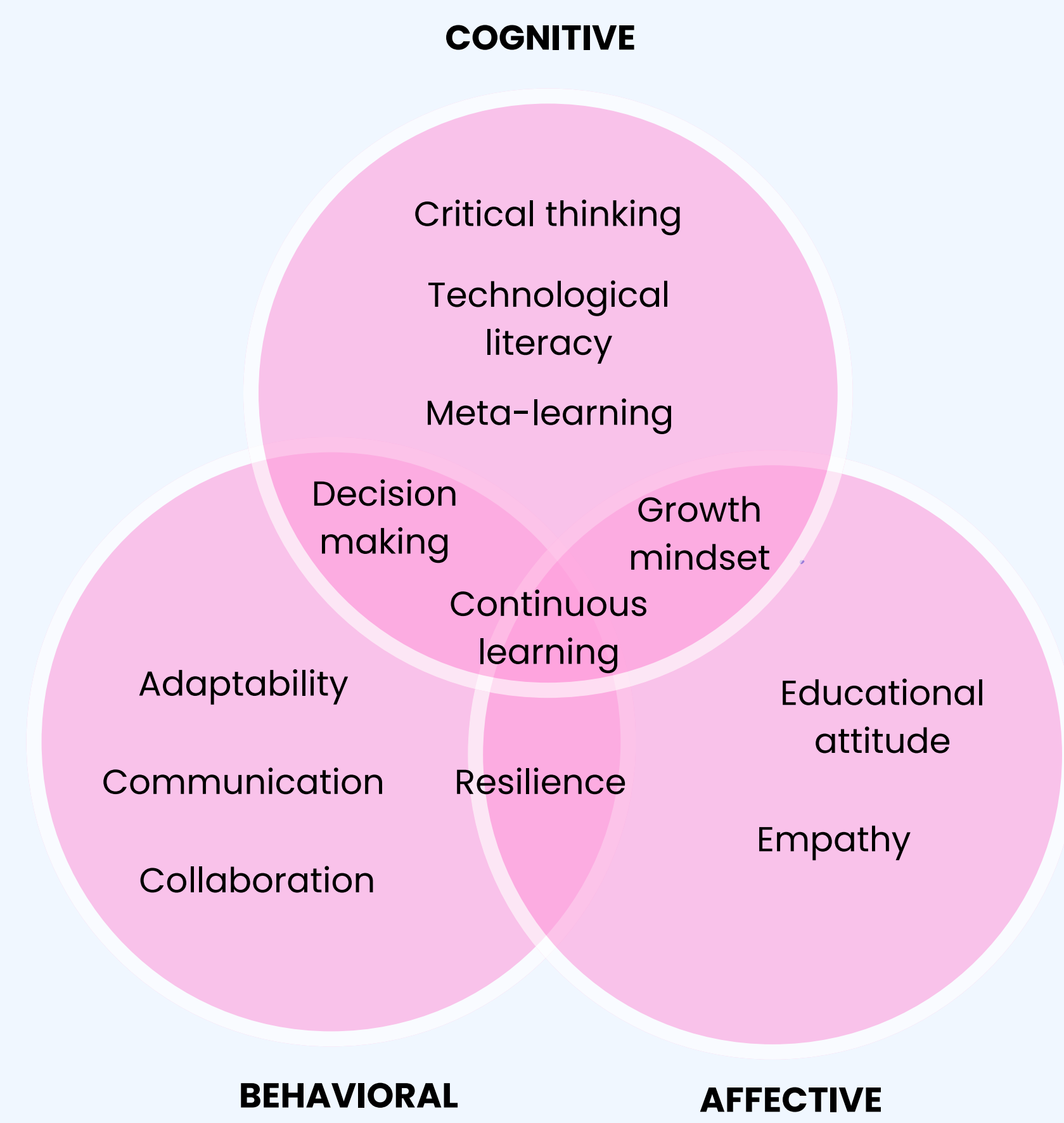
1 Important skills for future graduates

The most important skills for future graduates can be divided into three domains:

- **Affective** → the emotional response we have toward an attitude object, whether that's a person, an idea, an item, or a situation.
- **Behavioral** → the predisposition or tendency to act in a certain way toward an attitude object; it often refers to an intention to act.
- **Cognitive** → the beliefs, thoughts, and evaluations we associate with an attitude object.

These skills can only partially be taught in traditional classes. Students need to solve real problems, debate, make mistakes, and adapt to challenges.

Continuous learning and skills for the future refers to the ability to keep learning throughout life and gaining the skills needed to adapt to a rapidly changing world. Jobs, technologies, and societal needs are constantly evolving, so education must help learners build adaptable skills that are transferable across industries and roles ("horizontal skills"). Many students are trained for today's requirements but not for tomorrow's uncertainties.



Based on Liu et al. (2023)

2 Going Beyond traditional degrees

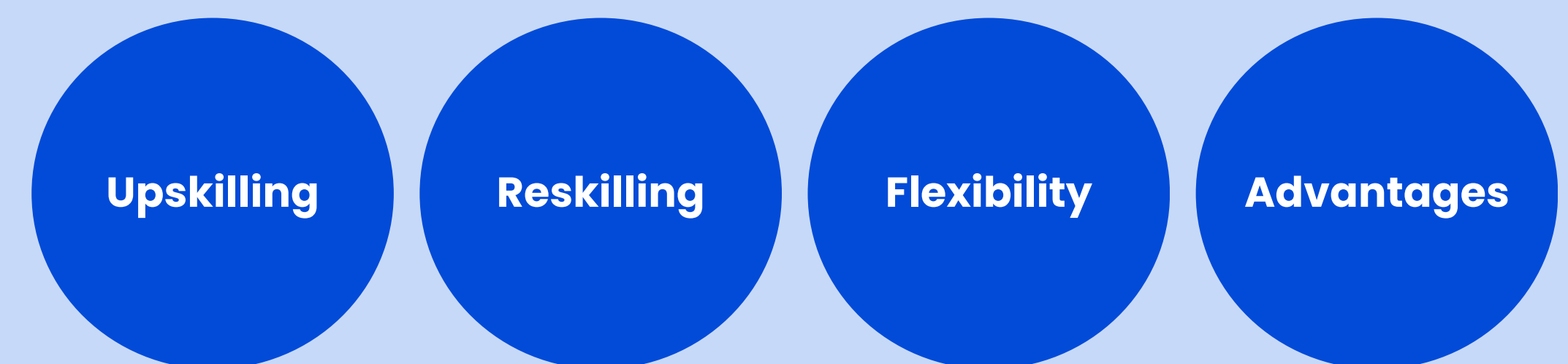
As student pathways are becoming less linear, the single, traditional **degree** can no longer remain static and needs to be more **dynamic**.

All of this can be implemented through:

- Giving students space to explore topics they want to develop;
- Clearly communicating the program;
- Designing stackable curriculums;
- Organising workshops;
- Implementing a tailored platform;
- Creating alumni networks;

3 Continuous learning opportunities

What kind of **continuous learning opportunities** might graduates need?



Methods on how to adapt to the public:

- Using **andragogy** (an approach centered on self-directed learning, problem-solving, and immediate real-world application);
- Respecting the **personal life** of older students.
- Facilitate **open discussions** rather than passive lecturing.
- Normalizing **longlife learning**.

Hands-on experience

Employers seek experience that the current education system often fails to provide. Practical education and more traineeships could give students the possibility to get that experience.

Microcredentials

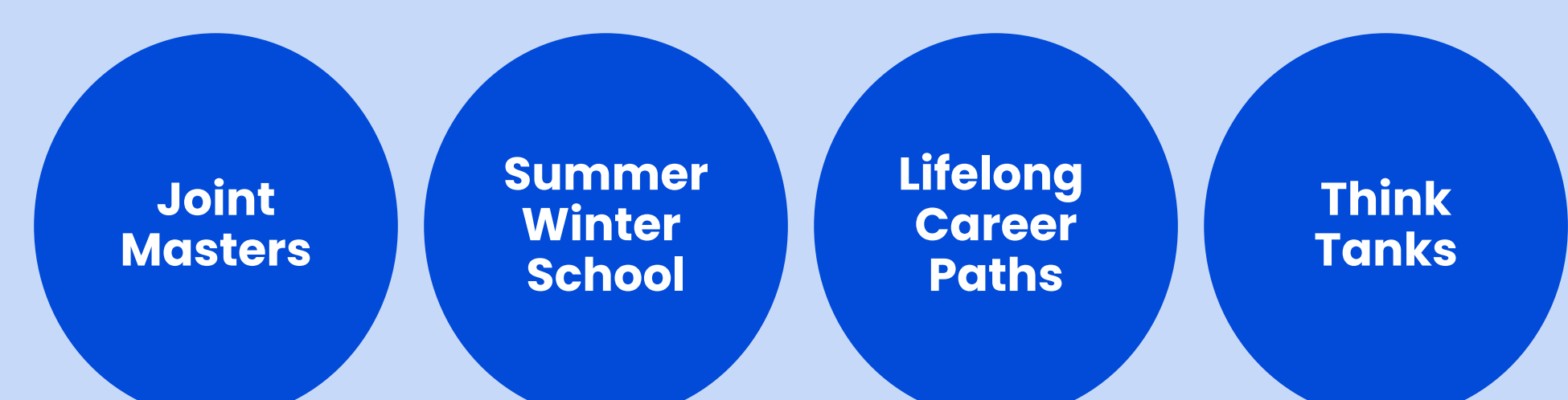
Microcredentials are gaining headway in quick upskilling for students, giving them potential pathways towards employment.

Extracurricular activities

It is important to create up-to-date extracurricular activities and encourage students to attend, helping them develop interests that could enrich and diversify their curriculums.

4 The EC2U role

EC2U provides a lot of opportunities related to the continuous learning topic:



What EC2U can do to improve its contribution:

- **Increase the offer** of joint programs so that students from every field can apply and experience the range of opportunities in the Alliance.
- Turn **Think Tanks** into an opportunity to create a **real life impact** by involving local associated partners in local projects.
- Offer to the **local community** of each university the opportunity **to learn new skills and update them**, even without a student status.

Thank you and keep learning!



Scan me to learn more!