



Professionalism

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The term denotes competence or skill expected of a profession or worker in a specific profession. Professionalism in Vietnamese is translated as chuyên nghiệp (belonging to one particular profession), which is in line with the English term.

Professionalism in the context of tertiary sector of the 21st century global economy also refers to attitudes towards the workplace/codes of conduct that entail dedicated and ethical attitude, punctual delivery, transparent management, structured and efficient communication. This so-called professional behaviour has been adopted and perceived widely as desirable as countries are increasingly integrated into the global economic system. What is missing in this definition is the passion (and sometimes life-long dedication for the work that one does). In the art world, passion is considered a pre-requisite for without it, one may find it tough to persevere. Having said that, signs of passion sometimes are not always manifested in the form of the same aforementioned professional qualities but in the ability to listen, in giving time, in sharing resources. Contextual differences should never be overlooked and culture is not always translatable, and so perhaps professionalism in the art can also look very differently in differing environments.



Image of one of the many informal meetings - where programmes are taken shape- amongst young practitioners associated with Nhà Sàn (Hanoi).
Courtesy of Le Thuan Uyen