Definition: A curriculum vitae, also known as a CV, includes a summary of your educational and academic backgrounds as well as teaching and research experience, publications, presentations, awards, honors, affiliations and other details.

In Europe, the Middle East, Africa, or Asia, employers expect to receive a curriculum vitae.

In the United States, a curriculum vitae is used primarily when applying for academic, education, scientific or research positions. It is also applicable when applying for fellowships or grants.

Reference: http://jobsearch.about.com/od/jobsearchglossary/g/curriculumvitae.htm, June 2011