

Student and graduate employees

Name: Giulia Sagliardi

Degree Course [if applicable]: PhD Classics

Current year of study [if applicable]: 4th year

Job title in Information Services Group: Medieval Manuscripts Intern



Describe your role and responsibilities in the department you worked for within the Information Services Group?

The internship was part of a wider project aimed at improving the quality and accessibility of the catalogue of 'Medieval Western manuscripts' owned by the University of Edinburgh. My role was to update and improve physical and content description of several manuscripts, checking held information against the manuscripts themselves, carrying out further research on the manuscripts and creating detailed records in a dedicated database (ArchiveSpace), which will constitute the new online catalogue of the collection.

What interested you in this specific role?

I was particularly interested in working with collections and in particular with manuscripts.

What have you learnt from this experience and what impact have you made?

During my studies I had learnt palaeography and codicology, and visited the manuscript collections of museums and libraries. The internship was a chance to put into practice what I had learnt and further my knowledge in these areas. It also enabled me to acquire archival skills and first-hand experience of working with online archival systems. Due to my training as a classicist and my knowledge of some modern European languages, I have been able to work on manuscripts written in Latin, ancient Greek, Italian, German, French and Dutch. My familiarity with the dynamics of the transmission of ancient texts has helped me to create reliable entries.



How do you plan to use this experience to benefit your future career objectives?

I would like to explore the possibility of working with library collections after finishing my PhD, in particular with manuscripts and rare books, and I believe this experience will help me to achieve this goal.

What advice would you give fellow peers/students or graduates looking to get a job with the Information Services Group?

I think it is a great experience and it is worth applying if you believe you have the right skills for the job. In my case, it was a role which fitted both my skills set and aspirations for my future career very well. It definitely contributed to my personal development, as well as revealing how much I really liked this type of work.