



Employed on Campus 2018 Internship Case Study

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What was your internship?

Student Digital Experience Intern. Student Development Team in the Business School

Description of your role and responsibilities

My role involved two main projects. Firstly, I had to research business school student's current digital skills and experience, and suggest strategies to improving these in the future. This involved analysing a JISC 'digital experience' survey, which was conducted with undergraduate students from CAHSS and researching employer needs through desk research and interviewing local graduate employers.

I was also involved in a Global Employability project, which is a new programme the business school is piloting with Msc students in September. Through workshops and online resources, this project aims to help students with their professional development and enhance students' understanding of how to tackle challenging and competitive stages in a recruitment process. My role in this was to source, create and upload online resources onto the Global Employability Learn platform.

What interested you in this specific role?

As a business student myself, I was really interested in helping improve the undergraduate experience and help tailor the business programme to the workplace. I have really enjoyed my experience of studying at the business school, but, since beginning my course, I've definitely felt that there is room for improvement in terms of the digital learning and development the school offers. I was therefore very motivated to apply for this role, as I believed the project would have a positive impact on future students.

How have you benefited from this experience?

Both the Edinburgh Award and the Global Employability project have helped me understand how to better articulate my strengths and achievements to future employers. Both of these aspects of the internship have improved my confidence in knowing how to handle competitive and challenging stages in a recruitment process. Through the internship, I have also developed resilience in





overcoming setbacks and handling disappointments. This will be hugely beneficial to me in my future job search, where I will be faced with tough competition in a competitive jobs market. It is also a critical skill in the modern workplace, where dealing with challenges and difficult situations is vital.

What advice would you give to future interns?

Be prepared to change your approach to a task or project when required, and be prepared to handle setbacks and disappointments during the internship. Sometimes projects do not always work out the way we expected for reasons outwith your control. For me, it was often difficult to make contact with the key stakeholders needed to move the project forward. This meant I had to be flexible and think of alternative strategies when an original plan I had didn't work out. Although I had achieved a lot at the end of my project, I did have to deal with disappointments and setbacks along the way. However, setbacks are common in many workplaces, so I believe my experience of this has been a positive thing. I would say to others who find themselves in a similar situation to be resilient, try your best to stay motivated and look for alternative solutions or strategies.

