



Student worker case study

Name: Tristan

Job Title: Digital Engagement Intern

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

I'm a Digital Engagement Intern with a focus on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Working alongside the Academic Support Librarians, I've been involved in a number of projects including reviewing and creating Subject Guides (such as new Disability Studies and Widening Participation resources), creating Resource Lists, producing various training materials for students and staff on Diversifying Your Reading and source criticism, and even designing a logo for the Library and University Collections' 'Diversify – Decolonise' work.

What interested you in this specific role?

As an LGBTQ+ student from a Widening Participation background, inclusivity in education is something I feel incredibly strongly about. I entered the University through the Centre for Open Learning's Access Programme 10 years after I graduated high school. Prior to this, I didn't feel like university was accessible to someone like me and it was quite an overwhelming transition. However, I've tried to use my experiences to support students through my involvement in various committees and I saw this role as working to affect incredibly positive change.

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

The experience I've gained throughout this internship has been incredible – producing training modules for staff and students is something I certainly didn't think I'd be doing when I began my degree! Whilst my internship seems a world away from my Ancient and Medieval History degree, I'm confident that the knowledge and research skills I've acquired will serve me both in my studies and beyond. I've long aspired to work in the museums and heritage sector, and this internship has taught me a great deal about the way information is presented and made accessible which is integral to this field. Wherever I progress after my degree, I've no doubt the skills I've learnt and demonstrated will benefit me.

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

I applied through each of my internships through Unitemps, so that's definitely a good place to start. If you discover a position that you think might be suitable to you, then just go for it – don't let any anxieties hold you back! It can be easy to doubt yourself, but internships are designed to offer training and experience; it's just as important to demonstrate your commitment and your passion as it is the skills you already have. Each of my ISG internships have been very different but I've been able to apply what I've learnt in subsequent positions and throughout my studies, and I can feel the positive impact they've had.