

MICHAEL SAMPLE

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EDUCATION

Sept 2019 – Sept 2020 MSc Environmental Science

University of Aberdeen

This skills-based programme, taught by internationally renowned researchers and experts in their field, provides the theoretical understanding and practical experience of applying this to terrestrial, aquatic and marine environments.

Courses include: Environmental Pollution, Core Skills in Environmental Science, Soils for Food Security, Applications of GIS, Plant Ecology and Global Soil Geography.

Dissertation title: Investigating End Uses for Remediated North Sea Drill Cuttings.

Sept 2015 – July 2018 BSc Honours Geography (2.1)

University of Leeds

Studied a broad range of subjects including Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geology and Geography. Final year courses included both practical and theoretical aspects of Environmental Hydrology, Natural Resources, Transport Geography, Ice and Climate and Geographical Information Systems.

Final Year Project: The Influence of Agricultural Land-Use on the Bacterial Water Quality of an Upland Stream.

Aug 2011 – July 2015 Kings College, Oxon

A-levels: Geography (A), Computer Science (B), Maths (B), Biology (B).

ENVIRONMENT-RELATED EXPERIENCE

Sept 2018 – Aug 2019 Remediation Assistant

Cognition Land and Water Ltd, Surrey

I provided technical and administrative support for a former waste area remediation project involving the removal of asbestos from site and excavation, relocation and on-site treatment of infested materials. Developed skills in:

- Experimental design and field work
- Field bioremediation evaluations using microbial culture & microscopy
- Data collection and analysis using MATLAB

Through my role, I gained an insight into the successful use of recycling coupled with technical solutions to minimise the quantity of materials removed from, or imported to the site.

TECHNICAL AND FIELD SKILLS

Environmental Impact Assessment: Gained experience of phase I and II contaminated site assessments on simulated sites, using P20 and RISC4 models through field work within my postgraduate course.

Field Skills: Accumulated 2 months UK-based field experience through my degree and work experience during which I have gained experience in soil characterisation (WRB system) and mapping, groundwater sampling from monitoring rivers and plant identification using the British National Vegetation Classification system.

Laboratory: Used several analytical methods including Flow Injection Analysis to analyse NO₃⁻ concentrations in the River Ouse catchment. I have experience of using a range of techniques including Mass Spectrometry, High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC), Titrations, AES and Colorimetry.

IT: Gained experience of manipulating large data sets using spreadsheets and conducting statistical analysis using MATLAB during my time at Cognition Land and Water and through my degree studies. I am confident in using a variety of IT packages including Microsoft Office Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Sept 2017 – Aug 2018 Customer Service Advisor (Part-time)

HSBC, Leeds

Working within a team of eight colleagues on the front desk dealing with customer complaints and resolving difficult situations, I developed skills in managing customer accounts and offering financial advice to new and continuing customers.

Sept 2015 – Aug 2017 Barman and Mixologist (Part-time)

Tiger Tiger, Leeds

Working in a busy city centre bar, in addition to core bar duties, I completed a mixology training programme in which I focused on the art and craft of mixing cocktails, learned how to concoct new and exotic drinks and I am now experienced in experimenting with lesser known distilled spirits and mixers. I gained experience in managing a variety of tasks simultaneously and learned how to effectively handle difficult customers with tact and diplomacy.

May 2014 – Aug 2015 Seasonal Vacation Employment

Bridgcroft Organic Farm, Oxford

I adapted to a range of roles from fruit and vegetable planting, harvesting and sorting for local supermarket chains to working in the administration of customer and business client orders. This involved 10 – 12 hour shifts in which I learned how to maintain high levels of speed and accuracy in my work under pressured conditions.

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

Communication

I have developed excellent oral communication skills through my experience working with customers in HSBC and in the hospitality sector. Writing numerous reports and essays at University, and technical reports for industry has enhanced my written skills. My presentation style and skills were developed during my year working at Cognition Land and Water where I delivered presentations to senior staff and prepared a poster to illustrate my research findings.

Teamwork

I have learned how to adapt to a range of team situations by initially listening and asking questions. I was part of a particularly effective team at Tiger Tiger where goals for each shift were clearly defined and ideas for improving processes were actively sought which fostered a good team morale and the feeling of involvement and commitment to the company. I demonstrated my ability to motivate other team members during a university group assignment in which one of the members initially lacked commitment to the task but ultimately worked equally hard to help the team secure a high mark.

INTERESTS

Sport

During my undergraduate studies I was heavily involved in the Taekwondo club. I gained a black belt in Taekwondo and can now teach to lower levels. Since moving to Aberdeen I have enjoyed becoming an active member of the University of Aberdeen Taekwondo Club.

Travel

I like to travel and have seen some of Europe including: Spain, Croatia, Denmark and Austria and some of America: San Diego, San Francisco, Las Vegas and New York.

Food

I enjoy cooking for friends and family and have created some new dishes by combining and adapting a range of recipes which have received great comments and feedback.

REFEREES

References are available upon request.