Katie Winstanley

MA Hons History / 2008

Corporate Communications Executive Lead at a National emergency service organisation

Please can you describe your role?
To provide dedicated communications support to my organisation’s executive team and respective portfolio.

What experiences do you think have proved beneficial to your career journey?
The three week internship in Washington D.C. during the final year of my course was hugely influential on my career path. History was a great subject to study as it offers so many career options. The internship at the Naval Historical Centre allowed me to experience a role I had not previously considered but one I found to be interesting and varied and well worth progressing as a career option.

What impact did the 2008 financial crash have on your career path?
I decided to focus on searching for jobs in the public sector as the job security was slightly better than the private sector at the time. I also felt that it would offer more interesting variety when considering my longer term options.

What advice would you give to students thinking about employment in your field?
Be willing to learn and consider roles that may not be at a level you would expect now but have the potential to develop you and get you to where you want to be.

Is there any other advice you would like to give to current students moving from university to working life?
Find something you will enjoy and that will develop and challenge you. You spend a lot of time being at work and it is important to enjoy what you do.