

Duncan James Cameron

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Education

BSc (Hons) Actuarial Science

Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh (September 2018 - May 2022) *Current Grade Average: 87%*

My programme is fully accredited by the institute and Faculty of Actuaries, and offers a blend of theoretical and applied studies, firmly based on professional skills. Key studies include applied mathematics, statistical methods, and assessing risk in financial contexts. My use of technology to analyse insurance, pensions and other financial products has given me insight into traditional language Python, using Jupyter Notebook as a development environment, statistical language R, Excel (including Visual Basic) for the office, and LaTeX, the document preparation system. I have achieved more than 85% in all assessments in these software, all which had to be professionally presented.

Academic Achievements

Standard Life Prize

Co-recipient of the Standard Life Prize, awarded by Standard Life Aberdeen to the best student(s) in first year on the BSc Actuarial Science programme.

Deputy Principal's Award

Awarded by the Deputy Principal for Learning and Teaching, the Deputy Principal's Award recognises the achievement of 6 or more As in an academic year. Awarded in academic year 2018-19.

Probability and Statistics A

I achieved a score of 100% in this second year course, which counts as part of the IFoA's CS1 exemption.

Balerno Community High School, Edinburgh

Advanced Higher: Mathematics, A; Computing Science, A; Physics, B

Higher: Mathematics, A; English, A; Computing Science, A; History, A; Physics, A

Academic Achievements

Senior Dux for achievement at Higher level.

Junior Dux for achievement at National 5 level.

Deputy Head Boy

Portfolio

Jupyter Notebook

My portfolio of work can be found in a public Git repository at <https://github.com/DuncanJCameron/nls>, which can be cloned without requiring a GitHub account.

Scottish 10 Index This project is an investigation into the performance of the top listed companies headquartered in Scotland, an effort in data visualisation written in Python.

Hollywood vs Bollywood This project is a statistical analysis of a comment by a film reviewer that Bollywood films are sometimes too long, written using R to handle JSON data and run statistical tests. It was adapted from a project for a university course, a report for which is provided in the repository.

Sherlock Holmes This project aims to investigate how many times Holmes does indeed utter the phrase *elementary*, again written in Python, using built in methods.

Work Experience

City of Edinburgh Council

I am currently unable to work in this job, as all high schools in Edinburgh are closed to the public as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Swim Teacher (August 2018 - present) I teach weekly swim lessons at the Wester Hailes Education Centre, which has a popular swim scheme of over 790 participants. I teach children from 9 months to around 10 years - my focus being on beginners. I take on the responsibility not only for learning during my lessons, but also ensuring every child has a positive experience. My communication skills ensure I

strike the correct language level for varying audiences, particularly as I must simplify the same complex ideas for the different age groups.

Lifeguard (February 2017 - present) Currently, I am a casual lifeguard at the Wester Hailes Education Centre - Edinburgh's second busiest pool. Initially working on closed access sessions at my local high schools, moving to Wester Hailes was a real challenge, as I deal with hundreds of customers the days I work. However, my observation, communication and, in particular, teamworking skills made for a smooth and enjoyable transition into the fast-paced role at the centre. I also maintain my qualification, which I have held since 2016, by diligently attending monthly training.

Edinburgh Leisure

I am currently unable to work in this job, as all Edinburgh Leisure venues are closed to the public as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Leisure Attendant (June 2018 - present) As a Schools Leisure Attendant, I facilitate access for clubs to high school facilities in the evening and weekends, mainly at Currie Community High School. By keeping my qualifications up-to-date, I ensure the health and safety of customers - the key responsibility of the job. My proactive problem solving, willingness to take responsibility for my actions, and ability to clearly and concisely report issues to my line manager and facilities management, all help me excel in my role as a Leisure Attendant.

Volunteering

The Boys' Brigade

I have been a member of The Boys' Brigade since the age of 5, which I followed through to achieve the highest award in the Brigade at age 16, the Queen's Badge, which involved me completing over 150 hours of volunteering. Recently, as recognition of my work as a young leader, I was invited to the Queen's Garden Party.

Scotland Committee Member (August 2018 - present) As a member of the decision making body of the Brigade in Scotland, I have been part of all decisions, both simple and more difficult, made at a national level, taking collective responsibility for these decisions. Notably, I helped to ensure our vision, mission and values are inclusive to everyone of all faiths and backgrounds. I effectively provide communication channels between local and national level, a key responsibility of the role. During the pandemic, we have taken to using video conferencing software to communicate more frequently.

Officer (August 2018 - present) I help out most company nights with general activities, which include opening, sports, and classes - which have included web design, my work in the Brigade, and design your own sports game. My web design class was particularly enjoyable as I was able to teach some of my programming skills to the Boys, and to help their imagination come to life through their websites. I have enrolled on the King George VI Leadership Course, a unique course training course for officers in the Brigade, developing leadership, communication and interpersonal skills, and this has led me to establish lifelong friendships with people from across the country.

Heriot-Watt University

Vice-President, Athletics (August 2019 - present) My role as Vice-President is ensuring that essential tasks are completed, advising the President on club business, and running a training session each week. After the resignation of the Secretary halfway through the year, the administration of the club has also been added on to the roles of the President and I. Through improved communication and proactive recruitment techniques, we increased membership by 10%. I also wrote a web application using PHP and MySQL to sort entries and display results for the annual *Round the Grounds* cross country race we host. We are also working closely with the Sports Union to improve the value of each of our member's experience - both in person and by video conference.

Class Representative (September 2019 - present) As class representative, my role is to make the experience of Actuarial Science students the best it can be. I attended all Student-Staff meetings this year, including extra online sessions due to the pandemic, communicated with the School Officer - our link with the Student Union - and efficiently followed up on deadline issues related to coursework for several courses with the course lecturers, and the Year Head.