Katie Boyd

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Objective

Motivated PhD student with laboratory and coding experience. Enthusiastically learning programming and looking to move into a career as a web developer upon completion of my PhD in April 2019.

Education

Code Institute and Learning People

2018+

Diploma in Software Development. Learning skills needed for full stack web development, including HTML, CSS and JavaScript, as well as Python and Django. Course covers concepts required for high-quality, production level web apps, such as working with algorithms, UX, and authentication and authorisation. Involves completion of five mini projects and five in-depth milestone projects.

School of Psychology, University of Sussex

2015+

PhD, "Neurovascular Coupling in Different Brain States and Regions", supervised by Dr. Catherine Hall.

School of Life Science, University of Sussex

2014-2015

MSc in Genetic Manipulation and Molecular Cell Biology (Distinction).

Project: Development of Validation of a Fluorescent Membrane Potential Assay for Screening of a GABAA non-benzodiazepine binding site, supervised by Prof. John Atack.

School of Psychology, University of Sussex

2011-2014

BSc (Hons) in Psychology (First Class).

Project: The Role of the alpha2- GABA Receptor Subunit in Cocaine- and Early Life Stress induction of delta FosB, supervised by Dr. Sarah King.

College of Richard Collyer

2009-2011

A grades in A-Level Psychology, French and German.

Employment

Doctoral Tutor, University of Sussex

2015-2017

As a doctoral tutor, my responsibilities have included leading seminars, marking assignments, and providing feedback on progress to undergraduate students for first year Psychology modules such as 'Psychobiology' and 'Cognition in Clinical Contexts', as well as teaching specialist techniques to Master level students.

Internships

Study visit to NASA

Aug-Sep 2015

Worked in the Astrobiology laboratory at NASA's Ames Research Centre to learn about and work on electrodes that allow detection of neurotransmitter levels.

Skills and Courses

- 'The Web Developer Bootcamp'- Udemy: HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, JavaScript and jQuery, Node.js, Express,
 MongoDB and GitHub. Using the skills developed here, I was able to design and create the website for my
 University's 'LGBT in STEM' day: https://outandaboutstem.github.io/
- 'Advanced CSS and Sass'- Udemy: CSS animations, advanced responsive design techniques, flexbox layouts,
 Sass, CSS architecture and fundamental CSS concepts.
- Front-end Web Development- Code First Girls: Undertook a project to create a website using HTML, CSS and JavaScript as part of a pair. Learned about the practicalities of web development as part of a team and version control using GitHub in this context. Project: https://ellejane-x23.github.io/code-first-project/
- Extensive laboratory experience involving rapid learning of new skills, including use of specialist equipment, software, and programming languages such as MATLAB and Python for the purposed of creating visual patterns and analyzing data.

Hobbies and Interests

I have a passion for public engagement with science and technology, and as a STEM ambassador, have spent a lot of time over the course of my PhD participating in outreach activities, especially with children and teenagers. This has involved putting on stands at science festivals, inviting classes to the university to talk to them about our work in the lab, and attending career workshops to explain what a career in STEM is like. I have also written an article for 'The Conversation' about some of the work happening in our lab (https://theconversation.com/how-diets-high-in-sugar-and-saturated-fat-could-be-harming-your-brain-73657) and maintained an Instagram account with the aim of giving a friendly face to science and coding (https://www.instagram.com/brainenergylab/).

References available upon request.