James Bass

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PERSONAL PROFILE

A First Class Marine Geography BSc graduate with an inherent interest and fascination in geospatial analysis and better understanding changing consumer behaviour, fuelled by an early, yet avid appreciation for the importance of such vital socio-economic information, particularly on a local-level, through growing up in a tourism reliant economy of South Devon. Academically developing geospatial, temporal and societal analysis skills has continued through the 'Greenwich Forum Prize Best Undergraduate Dissertation 2015' nomination and an anticipated Distinction grade in MSc Marine Planning & Management. Further study of integrated marine and terrestrial interactions (including spatial analysis of Liverpool's retail centre) through the Master's, has truly captured my ambition to pursue a PhD project to explore 'weather and the impact on high street retail'.

EDUCATION

2016 – 2017 MSc Marine Planning & Management, University of Liverpool

An interdisciplinary taught masters which explores diverse temporal and spatial interrelationships between anthropogenic activities, terrestrial & marine environments, planning practices, policy and science.

Modules Include:

GIS, Marine Planning Theory & Practice, Marine Planning in Action, Politics of the Environment, Marine Ecology, Environmental Impact Assessment.

- Took on a mentoring role to a fellow student whose first language was not English, provided support & guidance.
- The MSc has taught me a significant amount, especially in regards to retail geography and understanding as well as mapping complex relationships between socio-economics, spending behaviour and shopping prevalence.
- Fundamentally, this has confirmed my interests and desire to pursue further research into this field.

Marked grades: GIS Module: 69%

EIA Module: 75%
Marine Planning Module: 73%
Politics of the Environment Module: 77%

Expected Grade: Distinction

2011 - 2015 BSc Marine Geography, Cardiff University

IMarEST and RICS accredited degree scheme. Assignments and field-projects were dedicated to environmental issues and subsequent management strategies in the coastal zone. This included hydrographic and shoreline surveys exploring coastal dynamics in & outside the UK.

Thesis: 'The effectiveness of current mitigation measures in tackling contemporary maritime piracy off the African coast' (*Nominated for Greenwich Forum Prize Best Undergraduate Dissertation 2015*).

- Despite an initial struggle during 1st year, my interests and passions were truly captured during 2nd & final year, with modules such as 'Physical Processes in Coastal Environments', 'Marine & Coastal Resource Development' and 'Integrated Coastal Management', allowing me to express and develop academically.
- The most important element to the course for me, was the constant opportunity to practically apply knowledge through an array of field courses and projects (UK & overseas).
- This allowed me to fundamentally prove my academic excellence and reaffirmed my ambition in better understanding the importance of coastal processes and their management.

Final Grade: 1st Class Hons (Top 3 Grades of Marine Geography)

2009 – 2011 St Cuthbert Mayne Sixth Form, 3 A levels:

Geography (B), History (B), Psychology (B)

2004 – 2009 St Cuthbert Mayne Secondary School, 11 GCSE's (A*- C)

EMPLOYMENT

2013 - 2014 Fugro Survey Ltd (FSLTD), Aberdeen, 12-month Placement

- o Primarily working offshore as a Trainee Surveyor: 12-hour shifts, 4 week rotations.
- A diverse role, which included a number of key responsibilities, such as: directing live survey operations using a variety of positional software, calibration of equipment and providing clear communication between all departments.
- o This included extensive analysis of geodetic, geophysical and photographic datasets.
- Offshore projects were diverse and included an array of survey parameters: SBES, MBES, Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVS), Corers & Grab Samplers.
- My role & responsibilities were crucial in order to contribute towards providing a market leading service to the oil & gas industry.
- Learning quickly to adapt to changing environments was vital, with my contribution & self-development acknowledged through placement appraisals.
- Exceptional communication, IT, time management and team work skills, were essential to carry out all duties competently.

2012 Sailing Instructor, Camel Sailing & Powerboat Centre, Cornwall

- The role included a huge level of responsibility, initiative and leadership.
- Leading lessons with groups of up to 12 pupils, meant understanding and applying safe procedures, in an often challenging environment.
- Working as part of a team, as well as effectively managing Assistant Instructors.

2009 - 2016 Tour Guide, Kents Cavern, Torquay, Devon

2006 – 2012 Sailing Instructor & Senior Member, BCSC, Torquay, Devon

RELEVANT SKILLS

Communication – Commonly demonstrated written and oral communication skills in all work and educational experiences. Development and delivery of specific reports to meet strict deadlines. During my placement with Fugro Survey Ltd, I established well-founded, productive and enjoyable working relationships with clients, colleagues and vendors. Moreover, Academic presentations during my undergraduate study, enabled me to develop such communication skills at a Masters level, with my grades reflecting this progress.

Teamwork – Always worked as part of a team or as a team leader, carrying out tasks and completing objectives in a number of environments and challenging situations. Group presentations & projects at both undergraduate & postgraduate level, have emphasised the value of teamwork in order to achieve desirable results. This is an attribute which I confidently trust will contribute towards successful and enjoyable working relationships, within a diverse academic team.

Working Independently – Frequently worked independently in university assignments and tasks, as well as in the commercial industry. This was particularly evident throughout my undergraduate thesis, where I required minimal supervision. Collecting, analysing and reviewing data and literature largely independently proved successful in not only the second highest dissertation grade in the year but also in being nominated for the Greenwich Forum Prize 2015. Ultimately, using initiative and having self-motivation is essential in achieving goals in any environment. I am swift to learn new skills and apply them independently and as part of a team.

Problem Solving - As a Marine Geographer and Trainee Surveyor, problem solving has been a day to day occurrence and one that I take in my stride. I believe logical, sensible steps and procedures are essential to overcome problems. Experiences in a variety of environments such as: offshore and in academic related situations, mean I am quick to adapt to changing circumstances and demands.

REFEREES

Dr Stephen Jay Senior Lecturer University of Liverpool School of Environmental Sciences Liverpool L69 3GP

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