Personal Statement­­­­

I am a competent and intuitive individual with the capacity to work effectively in a team or unaccompanied. Throughout my education I have achieved above par and am on course to leave university with a first. I am now looking to expand my experience by working in industry.

Education

Amery Hill School: GCSEs

*September 2006 – July 2011*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mathematics | A\* | Additional Mathematics | A |
| Physics | A\* | Geography | A |
| Biology | A\* | Religious Studies | A |
| Chemistry | A\* | Art and Design | B |
| English Language | A | German | C |
| English Literature | A | Information Technology (DiDA) | Pass |
| Design and Technology:  Systems and Control | A |

During my time at Amery Hill I consistently performed well in all my classes. I achieved good grades in all of my subjects but my strongpoint was in the sciences. My teachers saw potential in me and at the end of my final year I was awarded the Physics prize as well being one of a small number of students to be chosen to take Additional Maths classes once a week before school. I was then one of only two to achieve an A grade in the Additional Maths exam.

Alton College: A Levels

*September 2011 – June 2013*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AS Computing | A | A2 Computing | A |
| AS Mathematics | A | A2 Mathematics | A |
| AS Further Mathematics | A | A2 Further Mathematics | B |
| AS Physics | B |

It was at Alton College that my interest in computer science was sparked, with particular help from my tutor at the college. I had not studied the subject before but I picked it up very quickly and it soon became by favourite subject. In my second year I continued to perform well in my classes, computing in particular. I left with fond memories and a strong group of supportive friends, many of which I have been close to since the start of secondary school.

Exeter University: Reading Computer Science

*September 2013 – Present*

My first year studying at Exeter University was very successful. I achieved 90% in most assignments and maintained these results throughout the year. I received a first and was awarded the Dean’s Commendation for my excellent results.

I studied Computer Science and Mathematics in my first year. I soon realised that my heart was in computer science and that I did not have the interest to maintain the level of work necessary for mathematics. I believe it is not a good show of character to give up on something half way through so I continued with mathematics until the end of the year and now study Computer Science. Despite this I was very pleased to still received firsts in most of my mathematics modules.

Now in my second year, I hope to maintain this momentum. I have been appointed as the Treasurer for Exeter University Computer Science Society and am also on the committee for the university’s Real Ale Society. These two societies benefitted me greatly during my first year, both by introducing me to good friends and maintaining a healthy social life and by providing excellent opportunities in the form of meeting potential employers and running events such as hackathons. I wanted to give something back and ensure that future students have the same opportunities as I did so joining the committee teams was an obvious choice.

I am on course to leave Exeter with a first and am currently considering doing a Masters Degree at Exeter University or Imperial College London.

Experience

Air Cadets

*July 2010 – August 2013*

Having risen to the rank of Sergeant in only two years, the cadets gave me countless opportunities to build on my teamwork and leadership skills as well as learn a lot about respect and discipline. My duties included organising the evening’s events, teaching lessons and taking drill. Other duties included taking cadets on military exercises and instructing them on the ranges, where I was qualified as a shooting coach.

In my opinion, the most valuable thing that I gained from cadets was confidence; whether it’s public speaking or simply having the confidence to make decisions, I feel that I am a better person for it. My only regret is not joining the corps sooner.

Employment History

Harlequin Computing Solutions

*Full time: June 2014 – September 2014*

After my first year at Exeter University I spent 7 weeks over the summer working for Harlequin Computing Solutions, developing a mobile phone application for cyclists called RescYouMe. This was my first experience working in industry and I took a lot away from it.

My time was split between pair programming and working alone, as well as being very involved in the development and planning of the project. While coding in a pair I learnt a lot by working with someone more experienced as well as how to program effectively in a team. While alone I developed my personal discipline skills as I was often given a task and worked on it by myself, with a result expected at the end of the day.

We developed the app using a technology called Cordova, which allows webpages written in HTML, CSS and JavaScript to be built as a platform independent mobile phone application. I was tasked with doing a lot of research into the technology we would use and it was very exciting, both in having a strong influence on the project but also in using technologies I hadn’t used before such as jQuery and Cordova. I also learnt about the development lifecycle first hand and was introduced to tools like Git and programming paradigms such as Extreme Programming and test-driven development, which has influenced how I work at university.

Since the end of the summer I have been promised more work on a part time basis during term time and full time employment while at home during holidays.

References

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