David Anton leuan Grady

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Education & Qualifications

Postgraduate | Aberystwyth University: Environmental Change, Impact and Adaptation MSc (Ongoing).

Current average (Semester One): 77%.

The Rhondda Trust, the James Pantyfedwen Foundation and the Masonic Charitable Foundation scholarships were obtained as sources of funding for this degree. I also act as the course representative.

Modules include:

Semester One

- Advanced Research Skills 1: Science Communication and Data Analysis (81%)
- Environmental Change: A Palaeo Perspective (82%)
- Investigating Environmental Change: Fieldwork (68%)

Semester Two (Graded, Unmoderated)

- Global Climate Change: Debates and Impacts (86%)
- Risk Management and Resilience in a Changing Environment (78%)
- Managing Environmental Change in Practice (86%)

MSc Dissertation (Ongoing): This project utilises National Library newspaper archives to investigate flood frequency and magnitude in Wales, thereby addressing the gap in understanding of the Welsh hydrological environment during the 19th Century. I will be directly contributing to and working alongside members of the ongoing project: 'Spaces of experience and horizons of expectation: the implications of weather extremes, past, present and future', coordinated by Dr Sarah Davies at Aberystwyth University.

Undergraduate | Aberystwyth University: Physical Geography BSc (Hons.) 2012-2015.

Overall first-class mark (77%)

Awarded the Gregynog and James Fairgrieve Prize (Science) for highest scoring BSc Geography student. I also acted as the course representative for each year of this degree and as a student mentor during my third year.

Relevant modules included:

- People, Climate and Environment: A Palaeoenvironmental Perspective (78%)
- Reading the Ice Age Record (69%)
- Soil, Geochemistry and Environment (79%)
- Climate Change: Impacts, Perceptions, Adaptations (77%)

BSc Dissertation: 'Ancient Metal Mining: Geochemical Analysis of Peat Cores from Killarney, South-Western Ireland.' This project involved numerous analyses, principally geochemical (AAS, ICP-MS & XRF) analysis, of peat sediments from southwestern Ireland and earned a mark of 77% for the module, which included a presentation of my work to a group of my peers. This study provided the first sedimentary record of local Bronze Age activity, supporting local archaeological and palynological evidence. This work is currently being prepared for publication.

Relevant work/research experience

In addition to field and lab experience gained through my BSc and MSc degrees and working with Professor Lamb to prepare my undergraduate work for publication, this summer I will accompany him, and Professor Mitchell of Trinity College Dublin, in the field in Killarney, Ireland to sample further sediment cores from the bogs used in my dissertation, and will work with him in the lab on some of his various ongoing projects (eg. XRF scanning of Ethiopian lake cores).

Skills

I have gained general skills in research project management and data analysis, with specific expertise and interests in:

Data processing:

- Competent use of statistical and graphing software (eg. Minitab and SPSS) and all Microsoft Office packages.
- Sediment coring and composition analyses (eg. Tröels-Smith and geochemistry).
- Age-depth modelling of radiocarbon dates using the IntCal13 calibration curve in the OxCal and CALIB packages (used in my BSc dissertation).

Communication Skills:

 Leading seminars and presenting on a diverse range of topics ranging from Australian megafaunal extinctions and the overkill hypothesis to assessing London's current climate change adaptation strategy (earning marks of 82% and 92%, respectively).

- Working independently or as part of a group to produce reports and reviews (eg. Fieldwork modules).
- Designing and presenting poster presentations. In the second semester of my MSc, I presented a poster focused on the collapse of human civilisations and the potential roles of climate to a mark of 82% as a component of the module.
- I have also created a short video outlining the science/debate around climate change causes and impacts to a high standard (78%).

Time Management

I successfully completed my dissertation, alongside several other assignments. Therefore, I have extensive experience of managing different tasks and bringing each of these to a successful conclusion.

Other skills

- Fluent in Welsh & English, with elementary proficiency in German & Japanese.
- Full clean driving license.

Interests

I kick-box (2nd degree black belt) for Wales, travelling around the world and winning numerous awards including 5 times Cimac (British League) grand champion, 5 silver 9 bronze medals at multiple world championships and winner of the GB Open. I was also a member of and coached the Aberystwyth Kickboxing Club; organising sessions, kit and contributing to the general running of the club. Furthermore, I'm a strong advocate of environmental stewardship/conservation as a member of the University's sustainability and conservation societies.

Referees

Professor Henry Lamb (Personal Tutor)

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Dr Joseph Williams (MSc Course Coordinator)

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