

Dear Mr Knibb,

I am writing to express my interest in applying for a Software Engineer position with Cello Signal. As a student at CodeClan, the company came to my attention as Cello Signal appears as an employer partner with CodeClan. My interest was drawn towards the company after exploring the website and seeing the range of interesting projects that the company has undertaken for some very noteworthy clients. As an enthusiastic individual with a passion for learning new things and taking on exciting challenges, I would relish the opportunity of working as a member of Cello Signal's development team, and I feel that I would gain a great deal of work satisfaction from being able to continue to broaden my programming knowledge while working on the exciting and varied projects that the company undertakes. Furthermore, the fact that the company works with mobile technology appeals to my preferences when it comes to the technologies studied at CodeClan. It is my view that my skills and attributes learned both on and off of the CodeClan course would make me an ideal match for this position. Furthermore, the fact that the role offers the chance to work with a diverse range of technologies appeals to my desire to continuously expand my knowledge as a developer, and of the tech industry at large.

Throughout my time at CodeClan, I have worked hard to cultivate the skills necessary to be a part of a development team that produces excellent quality software. I have thoroughly enjoyed learning a number of languages, including Java, Ruby and JavaScript, and I would relish the opportunity to continue to broaden my knowledge base of Object Oriented Programming with these languages, as well as becoming familiar with entirely new languages and technologies. Alongside Object Oriented Programming, the course also teaches proficiency in a wide range of supporting technologies. This includes SQL and NoSQL databases such as MongoDB, PostgreSQL and SQLite, as well as various frameworks, such as Express, Rails and Sinatra. Additionally, two weeks of the course were dedicated to mobile development using Android Studios, and I have had the opportunity to complete a number of projects using Android with Java for the back-end. The instructors have placed a great deal of emphasis on the importance of Test Driven Development, and as such, I have become accustomed to utilising this approach in each of the languages I have used, making use of MiniTest and Mocha. Additionally, there has been considerable emphasis the importance of writing code in a manner that not only works, but is efficient and easy for others to read. In this regard, I have become familiar with practices such as writing code that is DRY and RESTful, and make use of design patterns where appropriate.

The course involved four week long projects that are comprised of a mix of solo and group work. Undertaking these projects has taught me the importance of carefully planning substantial pieces of work, as well as providing an opportunity to undertake my own research without the comfort of being spoon-fed information by the instructors. During the final project of the course, I used Rails to create a database a database that utilised all of the RESTful routes. I then used React in order to pull through and edit information from this database. During times undertaking projects, I have found myself to prefer working in a group, utilising paired programming and an agile approach in order to boost overall productivity and efficiency at the task in hand. I have provided links to my GitHub on my CV, demonstrating some examples from my portfolio.

My work experience in customer technical support and retail positions with companies such as Sky, Marks & Spencer and ASDA has helped me to refine my interpersonal communication skills when interacting with colleagues and customers, and these positions often required me to rapidly adapt to challenging new environments. My work experience has often required me to work as a team player, which is an aspect of the work environment that I truly relish. Furthermore, I come from a strong academic background, and have recently completed my Masters in English Literary Studies at the University of Aberdeen. During my time at university, I became a proficient self- learner while undertaking the extensive research that was necessary in order to complete a multitude of essays, presentations and dissertations. This has offered me plenty of opportunity to practise motivating myself to learn a vast amount of new information in a relatively short space of time, a skill that has been invaluable while undertaking the course at CodeClan. Additionally, my experience of debating complex subjects with my peers during tutorials has helped dramatically with boosting my interpersonal communication skills, and I have also cultivated excellent organisational and time keeping skills in order to keep up with the demanding volume of work.

In regards to my availability, I would be able to begin immediately. I am currently located in Dunfermline, and would have no trouble commuting to Edinburgh. Please find my CV attached for a further breakdown of my skills and experience.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my application, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,  
James Scott