

Ahmad Merii

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Education

MSc Smart Cities and Urban Analytics, University College London

2019-2020 | Final result: pending

- Studied a variety of modules including GIS, Planning Practice, Urban Design, Urban Systems and Data Analysis.
- Greatly improved technical skill set to include programming in several languages and spatial data analysis.
- Developed a website from scratch where users can visualise and analyse environmental data interactively.
- Worked on several projects involving real world data of various types including remotely sensed and vector data.
- Developed a multi agent simulation to test cargo bike viability compared to vans.

BA(Hons) Urban Studies & Planning, University of Sheffield

2016-2019 | Final result: 2:1

- Studied various modules covering many topics including urban design, spatial analysis, data collection and analysis, economics, planning policy and property development.
- Was able to greatly improve my professional skills such as communication, teamwork, presentation, and time management.
- Worked on an optimization problem to help identify the best location for wind farms. Used ArcGIS to produce multiple maps showing locational suitability based on multiple criteria with varying degrees of importance.

Work Experience

Placement at Arup, Bristol July 2019- Sept 2019

- Worked on a wide array of projects of varying scales and types including planning applications and DCOs.
- Assisted in preparing a transport policy assessment for Heathrow Airport's third runway.
- Produced several maps using ArcMap and Adobe Illustrator for several projects.
- Prepared a statement of community involvement and undertook a review of legislation for ventures related to the A30 project.
- Contributed to the telecoms chapter of the Worcestershire infrastructure delivery plan.
- Assisted in the preparation of bids.

Placement at JJA Planning LLP, London April 2019

- Was involved in the preparation of planning applications and statements.

- Gathered information to support applications, statements and reports.
- Liaised with councils and planning inspectorate to establish the status of applications and appeals.

Placement at Stevenage Borough Council, Stevenage Aug 2018

- Used theoretical knowledge learned at university synergistically to assist in various tasks.
- Mapped major projects using GIS and produced the primary map for Stevenage's Integrated Transport Strategy.
- Assessed planning applications and drafted reports recommending application outcome using local and national policy as well as other material considerations.
- Examined projected demand for parking to help update parking requirement SPD.

Activities and Volunteering:

Student Representative at CASA, UCL Oct 2019 – Sept 2020

- Represented students' interests at the Staff-Student Consultative Committee meetings
- Worked with both students and other representatives to communicate key issues to the department.

Sheffield University Lebanese Society President June 2017- June 2018

- Liaising internally within the committee as well as externally with the Student's Union, other societies and safety personnel.
- Planning social events which included drafting risk assessments, calculating costs and working with publicity and inclusion officers.
- Attended staff led training sessions in leadership, conflict resolution and risk management.

Computer Literacy Knowledge:

- Proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Teams and outlook).
- Proficient in Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, and Illustrator with the ability to produce reports, portfolios, maps and posters.
- proficient in multiple GIS environments including Quantum GIS (QGIS), R and ArcGIS (ArcMap, ArcGIS Pro).
- Strong experience in programming across multiple languages including Python, R, SQL and JavaScript for data analysis purposes as well as spatial data visualisation.
- Strong experience in web development (HTML, CSS, JavaScript)

Additional Information & Interests

- Languages: English (fluent), Arabic (fluent), French (A2/Intermediate)
- Sports and Hobbies: Horse riding, table tennis, running and fishing.
- Clean UK driving License

References available on request