

## Personal Statement

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I am a recent Computing and IT (Computer Science) graduate at Open University and an English graduate. As such, I am proficient in computing and English and looking to get a entry role in web development. During my studies and life, I have been captivated by technology and have always wished to get involved in a more hands-on role. My current career goals are to become a full-stack web developer and a Lead web developer.

## Education

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### DipHE in Computing and IT (Computer Science) | Open University | (2019-2024)

I have been studying Computing and IT part-time whilst working at Amazon for the past four and a half years and have learnt a lot. I am on track to get a Distinction/first overall. Some of the topics I studied included:

- **Mathematics:** this covered statistical, graphical, algebraic, trigonometric and numerical concepts and techniques and introduced mathematical modelling.
- **Object Oriented Java Programming:** this taught the fundamental ideas behind the object-oriented approach to programming through the widely used Java programming language.
- **Operating Systems:** learnt about how an operating system manages a computer's resources, researched and installed various Linux distributions and looked at operating system security.
- **Robotics and AI:** looking at how robots work, programming robots and examining the role and impact robots and AI have on humanity.
- **Python:** looked at loops, creating functions, conditional statements and booleans.
- **Web Technologies:** explored cloud technology, web application architectures, HTML, JavaScript, PHP, SQL, CSS.
- **Algorithms and Data Structures:** learnt about lists, stacks, queues, dictionaries, sets, trees and graphs. Looked at algorithmic techniques like brute-force, recursion, divide and conquer, backtracking and dynamic programming.
- **Cybersecurity:** covered cryptography, digital forensics, mobile and cloud security, defence mechanisms and business continuity/resilience.

### BA (Hons) in English | University of Wales, Trinity Saint David | (2012-2015)

During my previous studies, I enhanced many abilities that are applicable to my current goals. Some of the subjects I studied are:

- **Welsh Literature in English:** I looked at books like *How Green Was My Valley*, *The Tower*, *The Element of Water* and *The Hiding Place* to explore welsh literature written in English and the cultural identity of welsh writers who write in english.
- **Creative Writing:** I developed my writing repertoire in different modes and genres through writing poetry, prose and dramatic writing.
- **Critical Culture Theory:** I looked at the exploration of post-colonialism and empire in *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe and how colonialism affected African societies.
- **Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL):** I developed high-level research skills, learned about the theory and methodology of TEFL, and I created lesson plans.
- **Medieval and Early Modern Literature:** I studied major works like *The Divine Comedy*, *The Faerie Queen* and *Paradise Lost*; and authors such as Shakespeare, John Donne and Marie de France.
- **Linguistics:** Studied theories of first and second language acquisition like Behaviourism and Innate language acquisition through Skinner and Chomsky.
- **Modern Literature:** I studied *To the Lighthouse* and its exploration of gender and time; *Heart of Darkness*, looking at Imperialism and colonial viewpoints; *The Waste Land*'s depiction of post-war fragmentation; and *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*'s discussion of alienation and decay.
- **Literary Research:** I examined theoretical frameworks such as psychoanalysis (including Lacanianism and Freudian analysis) and feminism (represented by Virginia Woolf and Simone de Beauvoir) through Woolf's *A Room of One's Own* and Kafka's *Metamorphosis*.
- **Renaissance Poetry:** I studied the poetry of Edmund Spenser and Sir Philip Sidney alongside the metaphysical poets John Donne and Andrew Marvell. I explored the English Sonnet and its different rhyming schemes.
- **Contemporary Literature:** I read *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith and *Atonement* by Ian McEwan to explore cultural identity, memory and the impact of history on personal narratives.
- **Dissertation:** I researched and wrote a supervised dissertation. My dissertation was on Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment* and it's discussion of Lazarus, rebirth and freedom through Dostoevsky's religion.
- **Academic Skills:** I improved my essay writing, time management, independent research, presentation and analysing literature and criticism skills.

My time at the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David, gave me a solid foundation in literary studies and equipped me with the skills necessary for both academic and professional pursuits.



## Experience

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### Amazon Associate (2018-present) | Amazon (MAN1)

- I usually work as a SLAM operator where most of the packages in the Fulfilment Centre are labelled and verified before being sent to shipping.
- SLAM operators are reliable team players, trusted as the last associate checking customer orders are correct and as someone who can fix the SLAMs if needed.
- I also occasionally work in Stores getting stock that the department needs for the shift.

## Catalogue Assistant (2017-2018) | Simon Charles Auctioneers and valuers (Bredbury)

- My main responsibilities were to photograph and write descriptions for items in the daily online and live auctions.
- Occasionally, I was asked to participate in live auctions where I updated online customers on the current bid and showed an ability to perform in a fast-paced environment.
- I was also regularly the Lotter of the month as I frequently catalogued the most items.

## Stockroom Assistant (2009-2011) | Debenhams (Manchester)

- I worked in a small fulfilment team responsible for fulfilling daily online orders this entailed picking, packing, and sending the orders for shipping.
- This role gave me the opportunity to work with managers to improve a small team that was constantly evolving to cope with ever increasing workloads.

## </> Skills

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| • Coding skills and languages: | • Word/Excel/PowerPoint |
| 1. Java                        | • Problem solving       |
| 2. Python                      | • Research skills       |
| 3. JavaScript/HTML/CSS         | • Self-directed study   |
| 4. React/node.js               | • PC Building Skills    |
| 5. SQL/PHP                     |                         |

## Activities

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In my personal time, I have been coding some personal projects such as my own portfolio website which showcases some of my skills more suitably. My website's URL is at the top of my CV if you are interested.

Recently, I have been attempting to tutor English online and completed a Level 5 Diploma in Teaching English as a Foreign Language late last year. This has improved my grammar and teaching abilities so that I feel able to start tutoring part time after I finish my studies.

## References

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Available on request.