

# Simon Staal

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## EDUCATION

09/2019 – 06/2023	<b>MEng Computer Engineering (EIE)</b> <i>Imperial College London</i>	London, UK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Graduated valedictorian with First Class Honours, obtaining the highest average across all streams in the Electrical Engineering department (85.21% overall).</li><li>• Obtained the 2023 Siemens Memorial Medal and 2021 Head of Department Prize for top academic performance, and on the 2021, 2022 and 2023 Dean's List for academic excellence.</li><li>• Awarded the Dennis Gabor prize for "outstanding contributions to student life, and professionalism in all their activities".</li><li>• Modules of interest: Computational Optimisation (91.20%), Hardware and Software Verification (89.00%), Advanced Computer Architecture (86%), Algorithms and Complexity (100%), Instruction Set Architecture and Compilers (86%), Programming for Engineers (94%)</li></ul>		

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

11/2023 – present	<b>Software Engineer</b> <i>Optiver</i>	Amsterdam, NL
Accepted return offer to join Optiver's graduate program, including a 2-month tech and trading training course, and two 5-month rotations in different teams.		
04/2022 – 09/2022	<b>Software Engineering Industrial Placement</b> <i>Optiver</i>	Amsterdam, NL
Primarily focused on 2 projects in the Option Execution and Risk Technology teams, one focused on scaling out Optibook, a simulated exchange used in training and recruitment, and the other on re-designing Optiver's instrument download pipeline. Both projects were highly successful, and resulted in many new features which were pushed to production.		
07/2021 – 09/2021	<b>Robotics Program Internship</b> <i>Amazon</i>	London, UK
Worked with Amazon's reliability maintenance engineering robotics program team on a UK/EU project to update processes associated with their robotics stations.		
11/2020 – 05/2023	<b>Undergraduate Teaching Assistant</b> <i>Imperial College London</i>	London, UK
Worked with the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering to provide both one-on-one and group learning support various programming-focused modules. Responsibilities included providing qualitative feedback on code quality and delivering lectures on how to best use features of modern C++ when working on a large software project.		

## SKILLS AND AWARDS

### Technical Skills

#### Languages:

- C++(17/20) / Python (Advanced)
- Bash / SQL / F# / Kotlin / Node.js (Intermediate)

#### Other:

- Experienced with Linux development and Git
- Strong understanding of networks and profiling

### Awards

- Siemens Memorial Medal & Book Prize (2023)
- Dennis Gabor Prize (2023)
- EIE 2nd Year Head of Department Prize (2021)
- Dean's List for Academic Excellence (2021, 2022, 2023)
- Australian Institute of Physics SA Bragg Certificate (2019)
- AMT Australian Mathematics Competition Distinction (2018)
- Charles Gillham Memorial Prize for Physics (2018)
- Da Costa Scholarship for Best Academic Performance (2017)

## VOLUNTEERING

### Departmental Representative

*Imperial College Electronic and Information Engineering*

10/2021 – 08/2023 | London, UK

- Elected by my cohort as the 3rd Year Wellbeing Representative, and the entire course as the Academic Department Representative during my final year.
- Gathered data on student issues through surveys and one-on-one discussions, and co-ordinated with other representatives to raise these problems to the department.
- Planned and implemented various changes to the course structure, adjusting credit allocation and degree content to improve fairness of assessments and more accurately reflect technical ability.
- Overhauled the module feedback system for 3rd and 4th Year modules to provide future students better resources to select modules, and future representatives a more maintainable system.