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Mr. Talha Jamal

+44 (0) 787 3466351

[tj23@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:tj23@imperial.ac.uk)

Point72

Quantitative Researcher - Intern

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a Financial Engineering student at Imperial College London and wish to apply to the Quantitative Researcher - Intern position at Point72.

The role’s quantitative nature demands expertise in handling large data sets, feature selection, and predictive modeling. My undergraduate degree in electrical engineering equipped me with a strong foundation in linear algebra and calculus, helping me learn advanced modeling techniques. I applied this knowledge in my final year dissertation, working with time series data, and employing two advanced deep learning models: a CNN and an LSTM RNN for Human Activity Recognition. This experience ignited my passion for leveraging data-driven insights to make informed decisions.

In pursuit of a role to sharpen my skills, I joined S&P as a Quantitative Specialist. I independently led research projects from hypothesis construction to empirical analysis, fostering a detail-oriented approach to alpha research. Working in a global team, I proposed and collaborated with various colleagues on multiple projects, enhancing my communication and problem-solving skills. A significant achievement of mine was spearheading the integration of Short Interest data after S&P’s merger with IHS Markit, which honed my stakeholder management and research delivery skills.

Studying quantitative finance from every newsletter, podcast, and research paper I could find led me to a fundamental realization of financial products: risk cannot be destroyed, only transformed. Every financial instrument carries a unique risk profile, this risk is identified, isolated, extracted, and bundled into marketable products. To understand how to price the distribution of potential payoffs from financial instruments while managing an acceptable level of risk, I chose to study Financial Engineering at Imperial this year.

Last week, on my way home on the Piccadilly Line, I read about Niall Hession and Jade Harber's journey at Point72, from its inception in London in 2016 to its present-day significance. Their emphasis on the thriving entrepreneurial spirit within the firm profoundly resonates with me. It mirrors my aspiration to initiate and lead projects, from simple automation projects to improve productivity to large-scale evaluation of a new dataset to enhance trading signals. I aim for a career characterized by growth and impact. Point72’s impressive track record of talent retention and its analyst-to-portfolio-manager career pathway make it more than just a stopover in my professional journey; it stands out as a destination.

In the next step of my career, I am looking for challenges that push my boundaries of problem-solving coupled with support and access to the resources needed to tackle these challenges. With its reputation for fostering talent and nurturing a culture of continuous learning, Point72 seems tailor-made for my aspirations.

Yours faithfully,

Talha Jamal