

Curriculum Vitae

Robert Simons, MSc Oceanography

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Profile:

I am a reliable, enthusiastic, focused and determined individual, which I convey both practically and academically. I am able to work efficiently and to a high standard as part of a team and independently. I am currently studying a Full Stack Software Development course for a Diploma in Software Development through the Code Institute.

Work experience:

Geotechnical Consultant

Oakland Site Investigation - Albourne (July 2017 to Present)

Responsibilities: Working within a specialist team of technicians dedicated to providing clients with solutions to site specific ground investigations in the South East and Greater London. Various site investigation methods are utilised such as boreholes, hand dug excavations, permeability tests and dynamic probing. My office-based tasks include corresponding with clients via telephone and email, resourcing operations, analysing field data, organising geotechnical / geochemical testing. Also, delivering quotations, factual reports and results in a timely manner. My field-based duties include monitoring and sampling of gas and groundwater installations and permeability tests, geological logging and sampling of soils and arisings recovered from ground investigations.

It is my responsibility to give technical advice in the field to drilling operatives and engineers, as well as to assist with land drilling and other types of soil excavation and testing, which requires planning, problem solving, liaising with the public, clients, colleagues and co-workers at all levels, whilst complying with health and safety regulations.

Achievements: Fellow of Geological Society of London, CSCS professionally Qualified Person, NVQ Land Drilling (in progress), Health and Safety, Drilling Operative Level 4, Geotechnical Soil Description certificate, Full clean driving license.

Customer Service Advisor (12 month contract)

Metlife - Brighton (July 2016 to July 2017)

Responsibilities: Working within the Employee Benefits team in the Operations function. Responsible for supporting the Portfolio Manager in administering a portfolio of Group Life Assurance, Group Income Protection and Flexible Benefits platforms. Involvement in a variety of processing tasks, from inception through the life of the policy, helping manage all aspects of customer queries, taking ownership and delivering service excellence at all times. There was also a requirement to call and receive calls from customers, in support of ongoing queries.

Senior Service Consultant / Pension Data Analyst

Legal & General - Brighton and Hove (November 2004 to August 2013 / March 2015 to July 2016)

Responsibilities: Handling all types of telephone contact in the Independent Financial Adviser (IFA) contact centre, with the primary aim of ensuring the majority of calls are dealt with on a first contact resolution basis across a wide range of customer activities and processes. Also, technical and detailed systems work, completing remediation programmes in line with Financial Conduct Authority expectations and deadlines.

Duties included pro-actively taking ownership of managing relationships with customers, IFA's and internal departments, through professional communication, resolving service issues at first point of contact. Understanding and working within the operating level agreements between the area and the rest of the business. Also, complex procedures performed in multiple stages, updating systems, analysis of data in MS Excel and the Mainframe system, processing payments, sending out letters, populating spreadsheets, dealing with complex enquiries, training and quality checking the work of others.

Achievements: Certificate in Financial planning exam CF1, promotion to Senior Service Consultant, experienced in training new and current members of staff.

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Qualifications:

Full Stack Software Development - Diploma in Software Development (In progress)
Code Institute - Accredited by Edinburgh Napier University (2018 to 2019)

Modules taken: HTML5; CSS3; JavaScript; JQuery; Jasmine; Python; GitHub; Data management; Agile development; Frameworks.

MSc in Oceanography – Merit award
National Oceanography Centre, University of Southampton – Southampton (2013 to 2014)

Modules: Biogeochemical Cycles in the Earth System, Introduction to Biological Oceanography, Introduction to Physical Oceanography, Introduction to Chemical Oceanography, Introduction to Marine Geology, Introduction to Remote Sensing, MSc Key Skills and Literature Review, Environmental Radioactivity and Radiochemistry, Global Ocean Monitoring, Global Climate Cycles.

Achievements and skills: Merit award. Accepted for studentship funding toward MSc course. Certificates gained in first aid, boat safety, and health and safety. Learned to use MATLAB computer program that was the main system used in dissertation project, as well as UNIX and Linux operating systems. Also confident in Microsoft Excel, Word and PowerPoint. Hands-on experience of many oceanographic research techniques including side scan sonar during practical boat week on Southampton Water, which also introduced the types of teamwork required for collating information on research vessels.

Dissertation Project: In order to quantify the meridional overturning circulation in the North Atlantic two independent data sets (Met Office EN3 and TAMARA) were utilised to analyse the heat content anomaly that results from temperature deviations in the North Atlantic between January 1999 to December 2012 at 10°N to 70°N and 0°E to 90°W. Within the area of study conceivable depths of up to 2000m from Argo float temperature profiles and various other temperature data readings were examined using MATLAB, in four different depth levels of the surface (0 to 100m), upper thermocline (100 to 500m), lower thermocline (500 to 1000m) and the lower (1000 to 2000m).

BSc (Hons) in Earth and Ocean Science – Upper 2:1 award
University of Brighton - Brighton and Hove (2010 to 2013)

Achievements and skills: First class award for dissertation project and overall upper two one for degree. Learned to format and interpret large data sets from PXRF and gamma spectrometry data, as well as many other hands-on laboratory and field work techniques.

Certificate in Natural Science in General Science
The Open University - Milton Keynes (2009 to 2010)

Courses taken: S180 Life in the Oceans (2009) and S104 Exploring Science (2010).

Hobbies and interests:

I enjoy travelling, music and sporting activities, which have helped develop my enthusiasm and passion for both independent and teamwork in various situations. My interest in music drove me to begin playing the guitar, which is still a passion of mine. I also play basketball for a local team in Brighton and Hove. In 2017 my friends and I partook in the Adrenaline Rush obstacle course to raise money for charity, which was an extremely fulfilling experience.

References:

References are available upon request.