

# A Day in the life of...



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### MY ALARM GOES OFF...

Once my alarm goes-off at 8am, I am guilty of picking up my phone immediately to check the news online, as I want to be in the know on what has been going on all-over-the world. Once I have gotten ready and dressed for the day (which on most days is a formal trouser and a jumper), I'll jump on the DLR for 10 mins to get to Canary Wharf where my office is based.

### I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR...

I am responsible for the Strategy & Analytics team. Think of my role as an internal consultant; I am providing recommendations to the senior management team on what opportunities our company might have in the short-term (next 1-2 years), as well as the long-term (3-5 years). To inform my decisions, I do a lot of online research on the financial services industry and also speak to many banks, insurance and investment companies directly. Examples of my recommendations could be to build a new product to help banks assess credit risks better.

### I GOT MY JOB...

As I was born and raised in Germany, I went to the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt, where I studied Economics and Business Administration. Once I completed my Bachelor's degree, I came to London for my Master's Degree in Development Economics, which I obtained from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) University of London.

After my Master's, I joined a technology company in London where I helped with financial analysis for 9 months, before I was contacted by a head-hunter to join Moody's Analytics; a company I have now worked for for 7 years!

### AT SCHOOL I STUDIED...

I was always very interested in natural sciences, which is why I chose Mathematics, Physics, Biology and English as my main subjects for my A-levels. A lot of the analytics that I run today in my current job require me to work with large datasets, as I have to perform a lot of statistical analysis. Having a good understanding of Mathematics is definitely handy!

### MY TYPICAL DAY...

I'll get to the office around 9am and after having a quick catch up with my team, I'll reply to emails and



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start working on my current projects. Since I work with many colleagues in the USA, most of my meetings with them start from 2pm onwards. Lunch is generally a sandwich that I'll pick-up from the mall downstairs, which I'll eat while continuing my work at my desk. On days when I'm not too busy, I'll try to go for a quick coffee with colleagues – it's always good to get a quick break away from the desk!

My afternoons are generally filled with many different meetings, most of the time until 6pm.

### THE KEY SKILLS I USE IN MY JOB...

At my job, I need to look at large sets of data, understand patterns/ trends and interpret what our company could do to grow the business further. While I have always been good with paying attention to detail and liked maths, I did not have any understanding of the financial services industry before I joined Moody's. I had not worked in a bank before, but throughout the years, I have been able to pick-up a lot from doing my research, learning from colleagues and

interacting with many of our banking clients!

### THE BEST PART OF MY JOB IS...

Working closely with multi-cultural colleagues that are from all-over-the world is the best thing about my job! I also love that every project I work on might be different and I continue to learn new things every day. In addition, I get to travel a lot across Europe and the USA to speak to some of our clients, which is great! Last but not least, the combination of analytics, which is basically working with a lot of data in Excel, but then also thinking strategically about what the data findings actually mean – is something I enjoy a lot!

### THE WORST PART OF MY JOB IS...

The toughest part of my job is to work across many projects at the same time, especially when the due dates for project-deliverables are pretty close to each other. This might mean working late on some days or getting into the office very early on others. However, finishing off a project is always very rewarding and worth all the effort one puts in!

### MY ROLE MODEL GROWING UP WAS...

My mother has always been my role model. After immigrating to Germany from Turkey without her family, not only did she manage to learn the language and pick up her profession, but was also very determined to integrate-well into the new culture and ensured to support my brother and myself in our studies as much as she could.

### AFTER WORK...

On typical working days, I get home around 6.30pm and start

cooking dinner – after having changed into more comfortable home clothes! My favourite dinners are pasta or some oven-baked fish and potatoes, with vegetables. After dinner, I tend to speak to some friends/ family on FaceTime, watch a documentary or a series online and spend some time reading, before going to bed at around midnight. Alternatively, my husband and myself try to meet friends for dinner in the city on 1-2 nights during the week.



### MY PLAN B...

If it wasn't for my current role as a strategist at Moody's, I would have probably been a psychiatrist. Since my A-Levels, I have always been interested in either working in the financial services industry or in the medical field!

