

ELBA

A Day in the life of...



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MY ALARM GOES OFF...

My alarm is typically set for 7:20am but I may treat myself to an extra 10 minutes in bed. I have a quick shower and throw on my suit which is the standard attire in the banking industry. It doesn't actually feel too serious after a while and there is no need for a tie either. My commute takes roughly 45 minutes depending on whether there are delays, which happens more often than I thought before moving to London! I arrive by tube to Canary Wharf and get to the office for around 8.45am.

I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR...

As a graduate my role is quite flexible as I am additional resource to my team. This means I get a variety of work which keeps it interesting. I normally work on projects which other people may not have time to complete and these often focus on key customer initiatives. In addition, I provide support to my team's management and perform analysis for them on a variety of things.

As a graduate I have additional responsibilities including mentoring incoming interns, and I am also an editor for Graduate Magazine.

I GOT MY JOB...

I studied Economics at the University of Warwick. My journey to this role was through an internship at HSBC which led to my graduate scheme offer. I got the internship after finding out about it online and went through the various stages of the application. I wouldn't say I knew exactly what I wanted to do after university but I knew lots of people do internships in their second year summer at university so thought I should also apply to some. I knew I wanted to do something within finance but wasn't 100% sure what, so I just browsed various financial related schemes on the internet and came across the HSBC commercial banking internship among others.

AT SCHOOL I STUDIED...

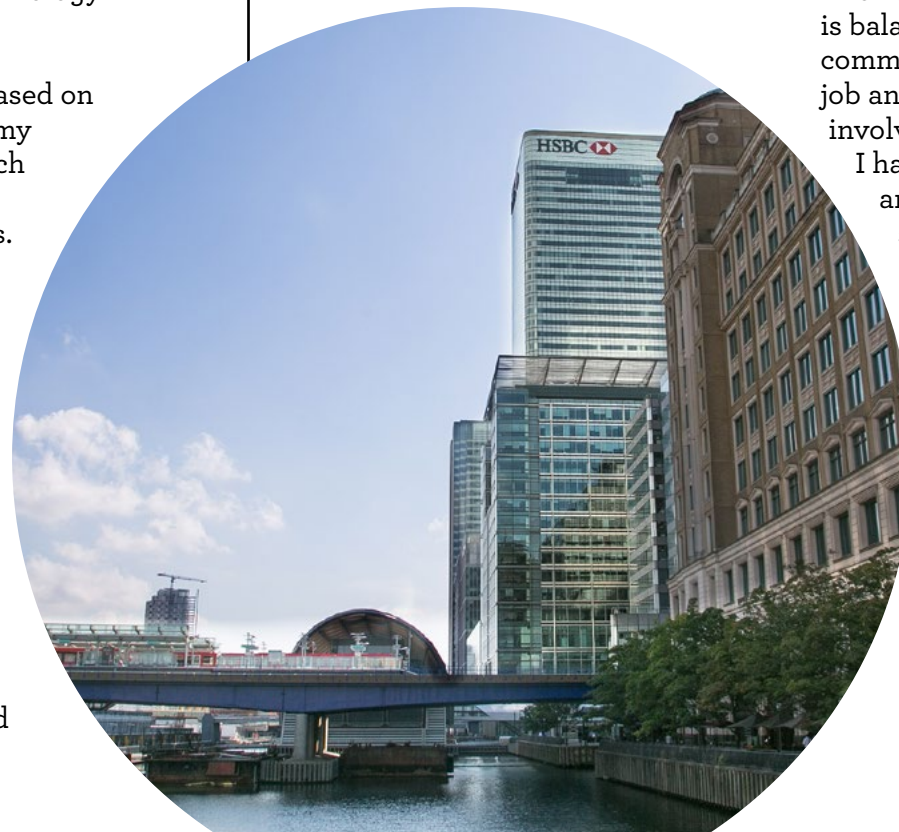
My optional subjects at GCSE were History, French, Religious Studies and PE. My A-Levels were in: Economics, Maths, Biology and Chemistry.

I chose my A-Levels based on what I was good at in my GCSEs, and I also which subjects were seen as 'strong' by universities. I chose economics having never done it before because I thought it looked interesting.

I wouldn't say any subject in particular is needed for my job. Having a good basic grasp of maths and statistics makes some aspects easier. The thing which would



Graduate Analyst



have helped me most in my role is learning how to use Excel.

MY TYPICAL DAY...

I like to start my day by checking my calendar and emails to see what the day ahead looks like. I will then have tasks to complete for a project I'm helping with, usually involving data analysis on Excel. I will have a couple of meetings during the day, either to do with a new task or the discuss the progress of an existing one. I will also have a meeting or work to do related to the graduate community, for example editing an article for the Graduate Magazine.

Lunch is usually a meal deal which I eat on one of the social floors in the building, which has great views over London. Depending on how busy I am, I leave the office between 5-6pm.

THE KEY SKILLS I USE IN MY JOB...

The main skills needed for my role can be split between soft skills and technical skills. I would argue soft skills are more important and include team work, communication and

collaboration. These skills are slowly developed over time and it has helped that I have grown in confidence since starting the job a year ago.

The technical skills include some understanding of financial statements but mostly data analysis on excel, not necessarily complicated analysis but knowing how to structure the data and present it in an easily readable format. I would say I had average abilities in both of these areas before I started this job. There was no expectation that I would know this stuff before I started and I have really developed these skills since starting.

THE BEST PART OF MY JOB IS...

I like the flexibility of being on the graduate scheme, as I get exposure to different teams and people are willing to help me learn new things. I also found the work culture a lot more relaxed and friendly than I thought working in a bank would be.

THE WORST PART OF MY JOB IS...

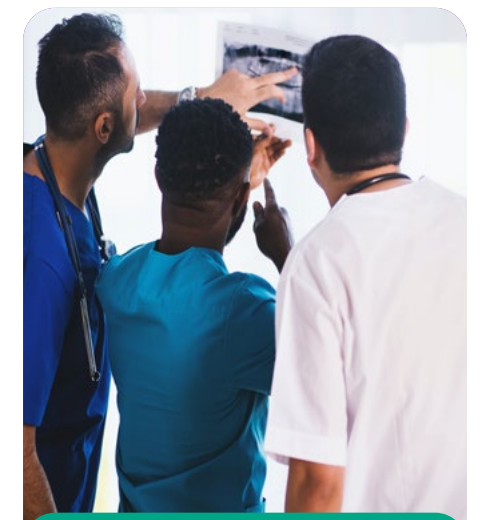
The hardest part of my job is balancing the different commitments between my day job and being a graduate, as this involves extra commitments. I have various priorities and deadlines which can sometimes coincide, so I have to manage this carefully.

MY ROLE MODEL GROWING UP WAS...

I'm a massive sports fan so I would say someone like Jonny Wilkinson due to their dedication and commitment to team mates.

AFTER WORK...

My evenings are typically either a chilled evening staying in watching TV or meeting up with friends in central London for drinks and a meal out. If I'm staying in, I get home about 6.15pm and cook something easy like a pasta dish and hang out with flatmates. If I'm meeting up with friends, we'll typically meet at a pub for some drinks.



MY PLAN B...

I was thinking about studying medicine at university but decided against it in the end. I was tempted by medicine as my dad is a doctor and it sounds interesting and it seems like a fulfilling career.