Online Q&A Session: Careers and Employability – 10th April 2013

Dominic - Student Recruitment: Dear offer-holders, Welcome to the third in our series of online Q&A's, this time focusing on Careers and Employability. Myself and Gary Argent - Head of our Careers Service are here to answer any questions you may have from 4pm on the 10th April.

1. Sophie Jones: how does city help students get jobs?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: Hi Sophie - thanks for your question. We have a wide range of activities in the careers service - from individual guidance interviews where you can talk to a career consultant to discuss your options, to employer events and skills sessions where you can find out more about different industries and learn about the skills you will need when you meet employers to go to interviews, for example. You can see some of the services that we offer in the career planner on the left.

2. Daniella: How can I find out what City grads have gone on to do in their careers?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: Hi Daniella - that is a great question. We survey all our graduates after they leave City to find out what they are doing, and we put the results on our careers website. You can see the results of the survey we did last summer here - http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates/destinations-of-city-graduates. We update this every year too, to help you think about the different options that you might have after your course.

3. mn: Would you say that it would be easier to get a job with an investment and financial risk management degree or with a business degree from Bocconi University?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: Our business school, Cass, has a great reputation both here in London and also with employers in other countries, and we have a lot of good links with the investment and finance sector - lots of those employers visit our campuses throughout the year. I can't comment on Bocconi University but I do know that students who study at Cass go on to work for a range of great employers.

4. Daniella: OK thanks, do you alert students about vacancies in firms they'd like to work for?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: Yes, we do. We have an online vacancy portal here at the University - you can get information about part time work (through Unitemps - our internal temping agency), graduate opportunities, and also placements and internships. You can also set up filters to make sure you get alerts about the specific types of jobs that interest you.

5. sagi: Hi i would like to go into a career in management most likely on the finance side of management but i am also thinking about going into a career in retail management such as a store manager, I want to study management Bsc at Cass and have looked at the 'career after cass' on the website and it has a few financial careers i may want to go into but nothing on retail management, will this course be right for me even if i did decide to go for retail management in the end?
* Jenny Tait - Student Marketing and Recruitment Officer: Hello Sagi, choosing the BSc Management with Cass will certainly open up a lot of doors for you in a variety of different sectors, including retail management. There will be opportunities throughout your degree to gain relevant experience, which we can help you find, to improve your chances of working in retail management and the financial sector.

6. Daniella: Do you have milk round events? what kind of companies attend?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: Yes, we do - we had over 50 events in the first couple of months of this academic year, including three careers fairs in October. We have a range of companies from lots of
different sectors. Some of the events are very general, some are specific to an individual sector. You can see some of the employers who visited us last year here http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/recruiters

7. Sophie Jones: where does city sit in the gradjobs league tables?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: We are currently 9th for Graduate Level Jobs in the Sunday Times Good University Guide, and 14th for graduate starting salaries. We are really proud of this - as that league table looks at more than 100 Universities in the UK.

8. Daniella: If I choose to do work experience as part of my degree can the careers dept find me a placement?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: Yes, doing a placement is a very good idea, and we can certainly help you with that. A lot of the employers that we speak to have placement schemes as well as graduate programmes, so they advertise their vacancies with us. We can also offer you support when you are thinking about how to prepare your cv or fill in an application form, and we can offer you mock interviews to help you practice before you go to do the real thing.
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: As well as doing placements or internships, you can get work experience through Unitemp, our internal temping agency which is located in the careers service. We have lots of opportunities both around the University and also in local businesses - you can find out more here http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates/browse-jobs

9. Manuela: Could I recive more information about the course L100, Economics?
* Jenny Tait - Student Marketing and Recruitment Officer: Hello Manuela, there are plenty of opportunities to find out more about our Economics course by visiting the University, alternatively if you follow the link below you will be taken to the course pages on our website which will cover content, duration and career opportunities,
http://www.city.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/economics

10. James: Are there any opportunities to meet employers as a student at city?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: Hi James - yes, there are plenty of opportunities - we are very fortunate that we have a whole range of employers visiting the campus right through the year to come and talk to our students. You can see some of the employers who visited us last year towards the bottom of the page here http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates/employability-statement and there is more information about our careers events here http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/recruiters

11. Manuela: Should it open to me the doors in the field of managment?
* Jenny Tait - Student Marketing and Recruitment Officer: Studying Economics will provide you with skills that are very useful in Management and we can help you find work experience within this area while you study. Alternatively we have BSc Management course which you may find interesting.

12. Manuela: It is too late to apply to BSc Management course, isn't it?
* Jenny Tait - Student Marketing and Recruitment Officer: Hi Manuela, have you already applied to BSc Economics and would like to change your application to BSc Management, or have you yet to apply through UCAS?

13. James: Can I attend these events even after I graduate then?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: Yes - you have access to all of the activities that the careers service offers for up to three years after you graduate. I do suggest that you make use of them while you are here though - the earlier you start thinking about you career the more time you have to gain the skills and experience you need, as we try to demonstrate in our careers timeline here http://www.city.ac.uk/careers/for-students-and-recent-graduates/planning-your-career/your-career-starts-now

14. Bill McGregor: Im interested in working in fundraising. can you help me?
* Gary Argent - Head of Careers: Hi Bill - we have a very active student volunteering team which works
closely with the careers service which might be of interest to you. Volunteering will give you an opportunity to build some experience which will be valuable in this sector. An undergraduate business course might be a good starting point, but the activities that you take part in alongside your studies will be particularly important in this sector.

15. Manuela: The former, I would like to change. I am also interested in the Management course with Cass. Is it possible to change?

* Jenny Tait - Student Marketing and Recruitment Officer: If you email cassug@city.ac.uk stating your UCAS ID number they will be able to consider your application for their Management course.

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