

James Cunningham

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Final year Geology undergraduate, with experience in field and laboratory investigations and the ability to develop effective working relationships, now seeking a Geotechnical Engineering role.

Education

BSc Hons Geology 2:1 University of Portsmouth 2021 – 2024

Course covers the theoretical and practical aspects of Geology including mineralogy, petrology, sedimentology, structural geology, engineering geology and geotechnics, geohazards, quaternary geomorphology and Spatial GIS analysis and is accredited by the Geological Society of London.

Field experience:

- Geological mapping and surveying at various scales including detailed graphic sedimentary logging and facies analysis, of various sites including NW Scotland, Brittany, SW England, the Jurassic coast of Dorset, Isle of Wight, Cheddar Gorge and the Isle of Man
- Completed risk assessments and considered hazards involved with collecting data in the field
- Experienced at taking detailed, systematic and local field observations and recording in a field notebook
- Gained experience using a compass clinometer to collect structural geology data
- Further developed my ability to collaborate with others in a team when working in the field

Laboratory skills:

- Analysed mineralogical composition of igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks based on their physical and chemical characteristics using hand specimens and in thin sections using polarising microscopes
- Maintained a lab notebook to accurately record mineralogical composition of items classified during lab classes
- Demonstrated ability to follow lab procedures

IT skills:

- Proficiently used both CorelDraw, Adobe Illustrator and Arc GIS for map creation and 2D and 3D models
- Utilised Microsoft Office, especially Word, for report writing purposes and PowerPoint to create professional presentations
- Conducted statistical analysis using SPSS and Excel
- Analysed satellite imagery using ArcMap and ArcGIS, remote sensing software to create lava flow inundation risk analysis and Erdas ER Mapper for ratio banding to highlight geographical areas of importance

Final Year Project

- Planned and carried out a 28-day field mapping project in the Broadford area of NE Skye, working with a small group of students to conduct independent fieldwork in an area of geological complexity
- Collected and recorded geological descriptions and structural data in a field notebook and a geological map and cross section, both produced using GIS software

- Evaluated and tested hypotheses about the geology of the region from field observations
- Synthesised field data and information from the literature to deduce the region's geological history culminating in a 8,000 word dissertation

Marshall's Park Academy, Wheathampstead

3 A levels in Biology, Chemistry and Geology 2019 -2021

8 GCSEs including Maths, English and Science **2016-2021**

Work Experience

- **University of Portsmouth Student Ambassador** **2022 - 2024**
- Represented the University at key recruitment events, acting as a role model for future students
- Used effective communication skills when promoting the university to potential students and parents as well as sharing my experiences of university life during talks and as part of a student panel
- Assisted in the operational set-up, running and evaluation of a range of recruitment activities such as campus and halls tours
- Worked collaboratively with other student ambassadors to ensure excellent customer service was delivered to potential students and visitors at all times
- Provided clerical and administrative support such as assisting with mailings, maintaining and updating documents and databases, sourcing materials for events
- Role helped me to understand and appreciate how to work in a professional environment

Geological Society President 2022-2023

- Founder member of the University of Portsmouth Geological Society
- Successfully negotiated with the SU for approval and financial backing for this new society
- Built up membership over a three year period using social media and signing up new recruits at Freshers Fair, today the society is one of the largest in the SU
- Along with the Social Secretary planned and organised regular trips to sites of geological interest
- Worked proactively to encourage employers to visit campus to deliver careers talks and to provide students with networking opportunities

Interests

- Shotokan Karate – weekly training helps me to maintain my fitness levels, recently achieved my Black Belt 1st Dan - a goal I have been working towards for several years
- Sailing – currently crewing a two-man dinghy and sailing competitively. Prior to this sailed a one-man boat (Laser) and won the Hampshire Schools Under 18 championship two years in a row
- Keen climber and also enjoy walks and visits to geological sites

Additional Information

Full UK driving licence

References available upon request