

Unit 11

Project due: **Monday 11th November 2019**

Other documents:

- Independent Learning Plan (ILP) -
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1eJHRi2UT6Ozze2ZBeng7Kg5KkVNUbVIIWJstqV849XU>
- Presentation -
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1w91efOIQGNHIAH3RDUO4Mi1uo2Nu9KBgsocf5uMF9vg>
- Presentation video -

Research

We had a presentation about universities. During the presentation we were given a useful website that has a CV building tool, explains a wide range of jobs and a way to set out a personal statement.

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/home>

I've already decided that I would rather find work experience than apply for university. I think work experience would be more beneficial for me; this is my second time going to college now and I'd like a change of scenery from school environments.

I'd like to find work experience for live sound. I already get involved in this subject for college but it has been on a small scale. I shadowed a sound engineer at our Latest Bar gig last year. It was a valuable experience as the engineer was telling me what he was doing, why he was doing it and showed me the digital mixer that they used which I've never seen before. Work experience will also help me apply my knowledge from this course but allow me to learn tips, tricks and gain a better understanding of the job of a sound engineer.

Job Position Research

Jobs	Notes	Pros	Cons
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Sound engineer	Is in charge of a venues sound. Sets up equipment and manages sound during live performances.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a permanent place at a venue 	❖ May not pay as much as a freelance engineer
Tour engineer	Is a sound engineer for a specific band, tour or festival. They travel with the band plus their equipment. Communicates with venues for set up plans. Specific job: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitors • other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gets to tour the world • Make connections with venues 	❖ Away from home ❖ Be prepared for faults/act quickly
Theater engineer	Set off/queue sounds during a performance. Controls sound of actors voices (if they use microphones) and background music.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good atmospheres. • Hidden from the crowd 	❖ Musicals ❖ Can be repetitive as plays are repeated
Exhibition engineer	Manages the sound/music for exhibitions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May travel unless you have a permanent place at a venue • Finds suitable music for the exhibition ??? 	❖ Can be repetitive if in a permanent venue.
Freelance engineer	Offers their help to venues. No permanent placements. They get paid by the hour.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earn more money by the hour • Can apply to and accept job offers from venues 	❖ People need to know of your services ❖ Will have gaps of no work and tonnes of work ❖ Be time flexible

Work Experience Research

Pros & Cons related to me - e.g. my skills, things I may need to learn.

C3 Productions

<http://www.c3productions.co.uk/>

C3 Productions is a company that offers a wide range of services such as equipment hire, technical service, venue support and production management. They have organised The Great Escape & Lovebox - they provided production management for the event.

Pros:

- ★ They have a warehouse full of equipment. I can improve my equipment knowledge.
- ★ Work experience involves possibly shadowing sound engineers & gathering equipment to send to gigs.

Cons:

- ❖ Would rather shadow a sound engineer.

Concorde 2 Brighton

<https://www.concorde2.co.uk/>

Concord 2 is a live music venue and nightclub, they host a wide range of events and acts. The venue itself is very intimate and small. This is the place where well known bands come to play there. I am going to see a band perform there called Yonaka on November 8th.

Pros:

- ★ Local
- ★ Know the general layout of the place as we had our last gig there.
- ★ They play well known bands.
- ★ Have their own equipment and sound engineers

Cons:

- ❖ A relatively small venue that host large bands - can get crowded.
- ❖ Is also a nightclub

Latest Bar

<https://latestmusicbar.co.uk/>

A venue in Brighton that can be hired for parties, artists and band, talks, spoken word events, comedy nights and so on. Our class held a performance there and I shadowed the sound engineer. The staff were very friendly and the night went very well.

Pros:

- ★ Local
- ★ Know the general layout of the small stage
- ★ Got along with the sound engineer
- ★ Live sound for gigs - bands of all sorts
- ★ Has their own equipment

Cons:

- ❖ A relatively small venue

Brighton Dome

<https://brightondome.org/>

They are a multi-arts venue that presents and hosts events such as dance, music, theater, visual arts and more. Brighton Dome also offer workshops from theatrical make-up to morning singing. I performed there years ago for Dance At The Dome. I remember that all the staff were nice and supportive and that they recorded the performances, managed the songs we danced to and gave us our queues to go on stage.

Pros:

- ★ Good working environment - performed there before.
- ★ Live sound for performances.
- ★ Would be different to do sound for theater, it may involve queued/timed sounds.

Cons:

- ❖ More known for hosting theater, dance and comedy performances.
- ❖ Big stages

Evaluation of choices:

My lecturer is close friends with someone in C3 productions, he is the one who suggested the company. My lecturer speaks highly of C3 productions and from research they look like a reputable company with impressive case studies. This would be a great place to get work experience as they have a warehouse and sound technicians. This could improve my music equipment, venue set up and live sound knowledge.

If C3 doesn't work out then I would try reaching out to Concord 2, Latest Bar and Brighton Dome. However, I'd prefer to reach out to Concord 2 and Latest Bar as they do more gigs than Brighton Dome.

Application Process

As I want to do work experience I know that I am going to have to write a Music CV and Cover Letter and/or personal statement to send to C3. I did this process when I did work experience for secondary school.

Music CV process/evaluation:

I already have a work CV for applying to jobs. I knew this wouldn't be enough to apply to C3 as it doesn't involve anything about music, bar my year 1 grade. So I decided to copy my work CV onto a different google docs document. I only kept my information, grades and mini personal statement.

To improve my CV I needed to make it music based. So I added my college work experience gigs to show that I have experience working at small venues/gigs. I shared that at the Latest Bar I shadowed the sound engineer and that I set up and managed the Whitehawk gig. I thought this information was relevant to add as it shows that I'm hands on at a gig and that I understand the workings of a small gig.

I also included a list of my musical skills. To show the equipment I understand and what I'm capable of doing. It may give them an indication of things I could learn and what they could get me to do.

Lastly, I added my interests and a link to my FMP EP. To show them that I'm passionate about music and produce my own songs.

Stephanie Roberts

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Personal Statement

I am a reliable, punctual and hard working college student. Throughout my studies and work experiences I have developed good organisation and communication skills. I also have a positive attitude and have completed all my work by deadlines to a high standard.

Education and Qualifications

Current course: Extended Diploma in Music Performance and Production

College attended 2018-19: Greater Brighton Metropolitan College, 1A Pelham St, Brighton, BN1 4FA

College course(grade): UAL Level 3 Diploma in Music Performance and Production(Distinction)

College attended 2016 - 17: Varndean College, Surrenden Road, Brighton, BN1 6PZ, 01273508011

College courses(grades):

Computer Science A Level(D) History - Modern A Level(C) Public Services Certificate(Dist Dist)

School attended 2010-16: Dorothy Stringer High School, Loder Road, Brighton, BN1 6PZ, 01273852222

School GCSEs(grades):

English Language(B)

English Literature(B)

Mathematics(C)

Science Double(C)

Religious Studies(C)

German(D)

History(C)

Computing(B)

Skills

Basic mixing desk knowledge e.g routing, EQ, panning

Setting up microphones, guitars and headphone foldback in a studio for recording.

Setting up a small live set placement of equipment, small analogue mixing desk.

I play basic guitar and keyboard.

Basic soldering

Cable types

Work Experience (gig setups and live sound)

College gigs:

In our class, I am the only one who is interested in live sound and I volunteer to set up and oversee live sound. For our first college gig I shadowed a sound engineer at the Latest Bar.

Whitehawk F.C gig: Saturday 30th March 2019

Set up, sound check and live sound. I was put in charge of the mini mixing desk for the whole event.

Software

Intermediate knowledge of Ableton Live 9/10 and Logic Pro X.

Interests

I enjoy spending my free time doing music related things such as playing guitar, reading magazines, listening to new music and reading blogs.

My EP - <https://soundcloud.com/zepher911>

(Music CV)

Cover Letter process/evaluation:

Originally, I started creating a personal statement to send to C3. However, I thought this would be too long and that the reader would lose interest as I drone on about myself. A

cover letter is more straight to the point about why I would like to apply with a brief explanation about myself.

For the first paragraph I explained why I would like to do work experience with C3. I included some facts about the company that I researched when deciding where to apply. This would show them that I know about them, that I'm impressed with the company and shows that I'm eager to work with them.

The next few paragraphs I talked about my music qualifications, my music experience prior to college and my gig experiences. These paragraphs explain my knowledge, skills and my passion for music. I tried to keep my skills and knowledge straight to the point as they don't want to hear my whole life story. Within the paragraphs I added little nuggets of details. For example how I collaborated with others to show that I'm a team player and that I can work with others to seem a bit more impressive.

Another key thing I included was that I am a college student looking for work experience and my availability times. This is so they know when I'm available but also know that I have college on the side.

To finish the cover letter I ended it formally and politely. I wrote this cover letter as formally and professionally as I could. This is because businesses would avoid informal emails as it shows you are unorganised and sloppy.

Cover Letter

I would like to apply for work experience at C3 Productions as the company offers a wide range of services. Currently, I understand that C3 Productions offers equipment hire, technical service, venue support and production management. As such, C3 have organised The Great Escape & Lovebox, which are impressive case studies. C3 was suggested to me by my lecturer Johnny Giles who spoke very highly of the company. I think it would be valuable to do work experience here as it would improve my equipment and venue set up knowledge.

At the moment I am currently studying the Extended Diploma in Music Performance and Production at the Greater Brighton Metropolitan College. In my first year I have achieved a Distinction. From doing the first year at BMET I now have a basic understanding of a studio mixing desk. I can set up a microphone, guitar and headphone foldback in a studio. Also, I understand basic mixing techniques such as EQ, compression and vocal mixing. These skills helped me produce my EP for our final major project and also help collaborate with others.

Previous to BMET I had keyboard lessons in primary school learning the basics, picked up a guitar in secondary school and have been self teaching myself since. At my first college I started recording, making tracks and experimenting on Ableton Live 9 as a hobby. This inspired me to go to college and study music performance and production.

For my first year at BMET I collaborated with college friends to help them record their EP. I would set up a studio and record their vocals or guitar, sometimes playing guitar for them. I did this alongside producing my own soft rock EP and two covers, to which I collaborated with two vocalists within our class. I really enjoyed doing this as I experimented with different recording techniques and effects that I'd never used before.

Another thing I thoroughly enjoyed was setting up college gigs and managing the live sound. We've had gigs at the Latest Bar, Whitehawk F.C and put on a small performance at the BMET central campus for an art college event. For most of these performances I helped set up and managed the small mixer. However, for the Latest Bar I shadowed the sound engineer which was a fun and an educational experience.

Recently, I've been working with our college technician Sam and we've built a Wah pedal. I soldered and Sam would explain what we were doing as we followed a schematic.

As I am a college student my current availability is Wednesdays, Fridays and the Weekends. I look forward to hearing from you and possibly doing work experience at C3 Productions.

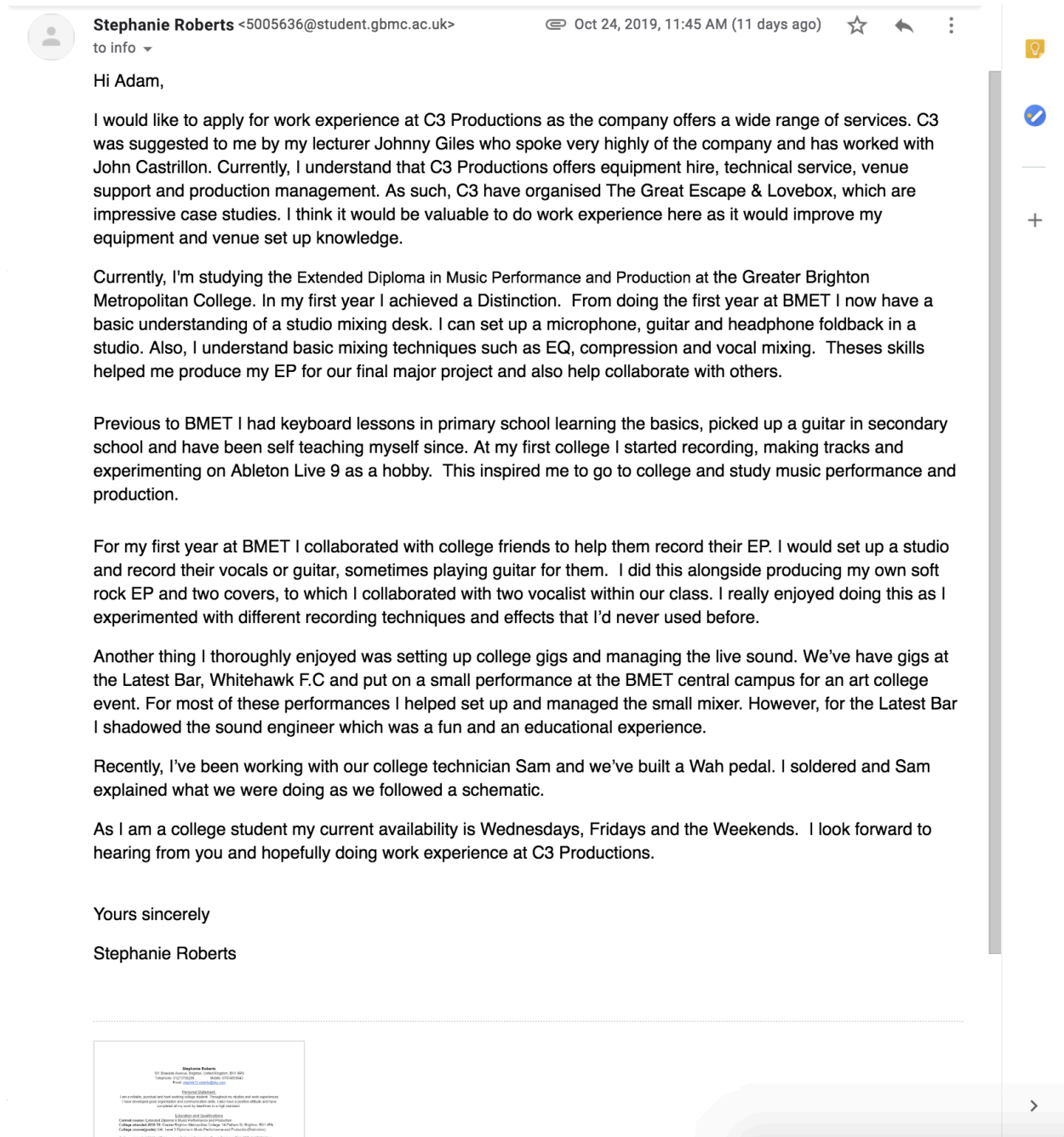
Yours sincerely

Stephanie Roberts

(Cover Letter)

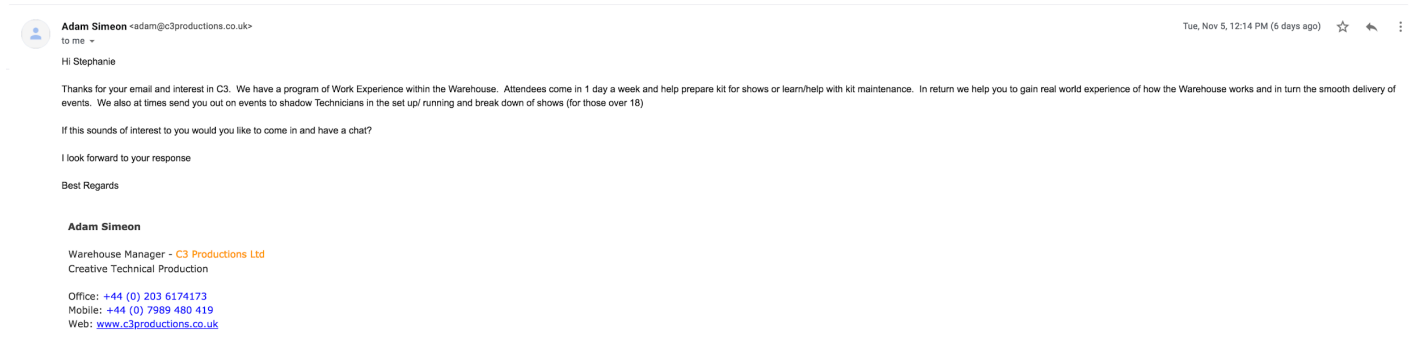
After writing my CV and Cover Letter I sat down with my lecturer to look through it. We made small tweaks and corrected punctuation. Then he said I would be ready to send to C3I.

My lecturer gave me the email address info@c3productions.co.uk and I sent the email. As my lecturer is close friends with someone in C3 he made sure in advance that C3 knew I was sending an email. I appreciate this greatly.



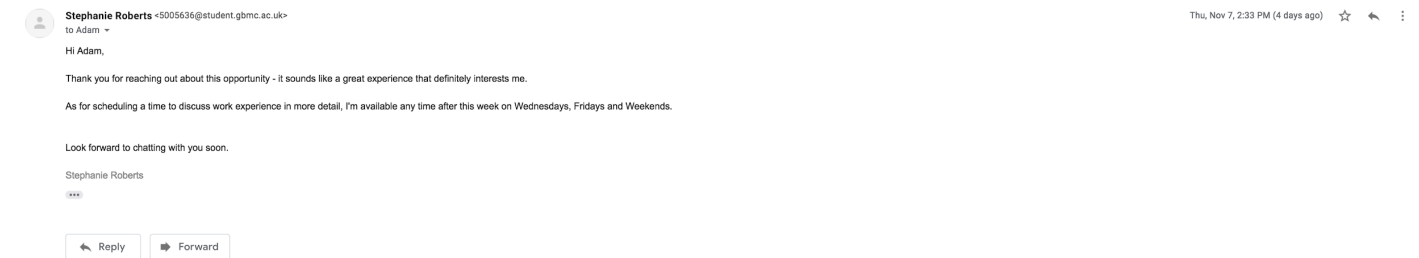
(The email I sent)

I got a response on Tuesday 5th November. The email said that they have a work experience program. Attendees come in 1 day a week and help prepare kit for shows or learn/help with kit maintenance. They offer help with real work experience of how their warehouse work and possibly get to shadow technicians in setting up/running shows.



(My first response from C3)

I replied and the next step is to sort out a date to chat about work experience.



(My reply)

Now I am waiting for a response back.