Case Study: Internship
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Which company did you undertake work experience with?
JP Morgan Spring Week: Technology.

How did you go about finding the internship?
I received an email from Imperial College Careers Service and saw that JP Morgan was recruiting summer interns. However, when I went to apply for the position I realised they only recruit students in their penultimate year. As a second year student doing a 4 year course, I therefore applied to the Spring Insight week.

What was the timescale for your application?
I applied in the middle of October. My first interview was on 13/12/2013. The Spring Insight Week took place between 07/04/2014 to 11/04/2014 during the second week of Easter holidays. Following that I was invited to the assessment centre for a summer internship in 2015. This took place on 28/04/2014. After I got the offer for the summer internship I phoned them and switched the 10-week summer internship to a 6-month placement. So I am going to start the placement from April 2015.

What was the application and interview process like?
I submitted a CV and covering letter and then had a telephone interview. After a few weeks, they sent me an email saying welcome to our Spring Insight Week.

After the Spring Week they invited people that they liked from Week to come to an Assessment Centre as a fast-track interview involving a paper test and three interviews. Firstly, I had a 45 minute technical test. Then I took my answer sheet to the technical interview. We talked about the questions in the test and they asked me some technical questions. The Second interview was a competency interview. The third one was a group interview. The whole process took about 4 hours. Finally, at the end of that week, they let us know the results.

What did the Spring Insight week involve?
On the first day we were introduced to the company. They gave several talks such as “Transforming Trading Technology”, “Technology trading systems” and “Global Technology Infrastructure”. On the second day, we were divided into several groups and played games together. We had several tasks, and we are supposed to guess how much time we would spend on each task. Finally, we compared the real time we spent and the time we predicted. It was pretty fun. At the end of that day, we did two hours’ work-shadowing. I went to the trading floor and saw what they do during the day.

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On the third and fourth day, we had a competition called the “Coding Challenge”. We were asked to create a volatility monitor using the Black-Scholes Model. Most of us hadn’t heard about the model before so we needed to google it and learn the basics by ourselves. In the end, we had to give a presentation to introduce the monitor we created. The code and the presentation will be given a mark by the people from Human Resource and Technology Department. There were four people in a team. Luckily, our team won the championship among the ten teams.

On the fifth day, they gave us some presentations to introduce different roles in the department. Also they gave us some tips about the Interview & Assessment Centre preparation. Finally we had some drinks and said goodbye to each other.

**What was the most valuable thing about your work experience?**

I think the most valuable thing about the spring week is that I was given a deep insight into the company. I learnt more about what the job would be. Also I met some people who would like to apply to similar roles and we could share our opinions together.

**Do you have any tips for future Imperial students looking to make the most of their summer?**

My suggestion is to be an early bird! Students should submit their applications as early as they can. Also, a good grade is important.