



Example Alumni Profile – Your Story

Could you provide us with a summary of your career progression since graduation?*

How has your Nottingham qualification helped your career?*

After graduating from the University of Nottingham, I decided to do a MA in Islamic Law at SOAS, University of London. Then I was selected to take part in the JET Programme so I lived in Japan for two years. After returning to the UK, I did a teaching qualification and then moved to Riyadh to work as a university lecturer.

In this section let us know how useful it was to have Nottingham on your CV.

How did you get your first relevant role related to the career you are working in now?*

I was advised by a lecturer to consider living abroad and she told me about the JET Programme. I am in Saudi Arabia because I went on the programme and I enjoyed teaching. So, it all started with some advice.

In this section please include any advice you have on how you got your first role, where you found it etc.

What is your greatest professional achievement to date?*

Gaining the acceptance and respect of my work colleagues in Japan. I went to Japan as something of a neophyte but I tried my best to learn about Japanese culture when I arrived. As a result, my colleagues, supervisors and principals readily accepted me as a real member of the teaching staff. Indeed, I was humbled by the kindness of my colleagues, the random gifts and the way in which they helped me whatever problem I had. I believe that regardless of where you are and which culture you are interacting with, if you are open minded and you want to learn you can work anywhere.

In this section please tell us what you are most proud of in your career so far



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What do you enjoy most about your work and what are the biggest challenges?*

I like interacting with new students and learning about their conceptions about the UK. The way in which the UK is viewed by people from different countries is truly amazing. For example, some of my students in Japan were rather disappointed to hear that afternoon tea with all its accoutrements is not the norm. The biggest challenge is trying to adapt one's teaching style to all types of students. A lack of motivation at school or university is universal!

In this section tell us about your challenges and any tips you may have to overcome these

What advice would you give to someone thinking of pursuing a similar career route and what skills/experience do you consider to be necessary?*

If I could advise any Nottingham student who is considering working abroad, I would tell him or her just go for it! Living and working abroad has been the most revitalising and profound experience I have had so far. It truly changes your approach to life and you realise that there really is a whole world out there to discover and enjoy. To prepare yourself, make the most of your time at Nottingham: do a semester abroad, make international friends, join a cultural or language society and make sure that you are prepared to take risks.

In this section please provide some advice we can pass on to current students looking to enter a similar career to you.

Your time at Nottingham

Please provide as much information as you can.

Why did you choose Nottingham?*

I liked the campus, the course was interesting and the university had a good reputation.

We love to hear why Nottingham. Was there anything in particular which made you choose UoN?

What would you suggest they think about or do, and are there any extra skills you think are helpful.

What did you enjoy most about studying here?*

Meeting interesting people from all over the world.

Please tell us your favourite thing about studying at the University of Nottingham.



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Why would you recommend studying at Nottingham?*

The city and University are not so big that you will feel lost but there are still a lot of things you can do on and off campus.

In this section tell us why you would recommend Nottingham- what did you like about the city? What would you recommend to potential students?

What advice would you give others who are about to start at Nottingham?*

My mantra is to treat everything as an adventure not a challenge. A challenge is difficult and you fear what is going to happen. If you are on an adventure, you are learning about yourself and the world around you. So, you can and should embrace the randomness.

In this section please pass on any tips you would give to students who are just about to start at Nottingham.

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