

Kate Abell

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Education:

2016-2020 BCL Law, University College Dublin (UCD)
First Year Average – 3.57 GPA, 2.1 (Ranked 4th)
Second Year Average – 3.48 GPA, 2.1 (Ranked 8th)

Year 3: Third Year Average (Semester One) – 3.53 GPA, 2.1
I spent the 2nd semester at the University of Vienna, Austria

2011-2016 Eureka Secondary School, Kells
Leaving Certificate (555 points)
Irish (A1) English (A1) History (A1) Spanish (A1) Business (A2)

Work Experience:

August 2019: Neil Cosgrave Solicitors (Navan)

- I worked for a local solicitor doing research in the National Archives on a contentious human rights case.

July 2019: McCann Fitzgerald (Dublin)

- I worked as an intern in the property department of McCann Fitzgerald, a large commercial law firm.
- I attended workshops to improve communication and writing skills as well as participating in IT training.
- I completed tasks for both a partner and a senior associate in the firm, such as writing memos, preparing documents for mediation, attending mediations and meetings and conducting research on different legal issues.

2017-2019: Supervalu (Kells)

- I work on the checkouts where I complete sales transactions with 100% accountability of store money and merchandise.
- I further answer any questions or complaints from customers.
- This job has enabled me to learn exceptional customer services skills and how to manage long hours in a busy environment, such as during the Christmas period.

June-August 2018: Pret A Manger (New York)

- I worked here during the summer months of 2018 when I travelled to and lived in New York as part of the J1 programme.
- Pret A Manger is a shop/café which sells coffee and only serves healthy fresh food that has been prepared in store that morning, such as sandwiches and salads. I worked as a 'team member' and engaged in extensive cleaning of the kitchens, monitoring the shelves and keeping them fully stocked, and on the checkout taking payments and answering customer's questions.
- As excellent customer service is a key element of the Pret business model, I believe I learned in-depth inter-personal and customer service skills during the 3 months working there.

Language skills:

- Fluent in Irish
- High level of written and spoken Spanish

Computer skills:

- Good knowledge of Microsoft Office packages including Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
- Experienced user of internet search engines for research purposes and email.

Other skills:

- I possess significant time-management skills from my time studying for the Leaving Certificate exams as well as balancing assignments and studying for exams in college.
- I also learned helpful adaptability skills as well as the ability to work under pressure from my experience of working in a completely new and busy environment in New York.
- I have developed teamwork skills in college, most notably in first year where group projects were an essential part of the majority of m modules.

Personal Achievements:

- Becoming a law and politics contributor for the University Observer newspaper and having a number of articles published. (2018)
- Judge of the Junior School Debating Competition in UCD (November/December 2018)
- Semi-finalist of the Maidens Moot Competition in UCD (November 2017)
- Received an award of recognition at my graduation for my role as captain of my school's Spanish debating team which reached the semi-finals of the Spanish Debating League in Dublin (2016)
- Member of the PAL (Public Access to Law) team who won the All-Ireland final of the National Mock Trials Competition in 2014 in the Criminal Courts of Justice in Dublin. I was one of eight girls who were selected from the team to go on to represent Ireland in the Empire World Finals in New York where we went on to compete against 56 schools from around the world. (2014/15)
- Received an award for Outstanding Contribution to Transition Year in my school for my role in organising, performing in and choreographing all dances for our musical "Hairspray."

Interests & Activities

- Travel: Last summer I was lucky enough to go on my J1 in New York and while living there I experienced many different cultures and ways of life. I spent 4 months in Erasmus in the University of Vienna, Austria, where I got to experience studying law not only in a different country, as well as encounter a new culture and meet new people.
- Reading and Creative Writing: In my spare time I enjoy reading and writing short stories. Reading from a young age has helped me improve my essay-writing skills in college, especially when it comes to writing lengthy assignments. I find writing short stories to be a great way to express myself, and I received an A- grade for my story portfolio in my creative writing elective module which I took last year.

References

Dr. Christopher Cowley (Lecturer)
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Anthony Kerr SC (Lecturer)
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