**Lauren Finegan**

*Home address: Term-time address:*

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**Education**

*2015 – Present:* University College Dublin, Degree Course: Bachelor of Civil Law

**Current grade**: 2.1 (See end of CV for breakdown of results)

**Expected final grade**: 2.1

**Modules of relevance**: Company Law, Banking Law, Commercial Law, Contract Law, Employment Law, Intellectual Property Law, Property Law.

*2010 – 2015*: Our Lady’s College, Greenhills, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

**Leaving Certificate Points**: 520

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Irish | A1 |
| English | A2 |
| French | B1 |
| History | B1 |
| Home Economics | B1 |
| Biology | B3 |
| Mathematics (OL) | B2 |

**Legal Experience**

*June 2018 – July 2018:* Intern, O’Connor Solicitors, 8, Clare Street, Dublin 2.

The internship gave me a practical and hands-on insight as to what it is like to work in a law firm. I worked very closely with the solicitors in the firm. This included preparing case files and regularly attending court hearings with solicitors and being entrusted with compiling books. I was afforded the opportunity to rotate between the different departments and work closely with the Partners and solicitors who specialised in various areas of law including Commercial Litigation and Dispute Resolution, Commercial Property and Commercial Law as well as Regulatory Law & Fitness to Practise Inquiries.

*Academic Year 2017/2018 & Academic Year 2018/19:*

Legal Advisor, Student Legal Service, UCD

For the past two years I have acted as a Legal Advisor in our Student Legal Clinics, a free service offered by the Student Legal Service in UCD. I have advised on areas of law such as Employment Law, Consumer Law and Property Law. The clinics have given me a practical insight as to what it would be like to advise my clients in the future. I understand the importance of confidentiality and being attentive and empathetic when dealing with clients.

**Other work experience**

*Present:* Gucci, Brown Thomas, Grafton Street, Dublin 2 – Sales Advisor.

I am currently employed by the Italian luxury brand Gucci, where I am working under a contract of 19 hours per week. At the forefront of our core values at Gucci is the delivery of exceptional customer service. Clienteling is a major aspect of my role – I engage with my clients not only on a professional level, but on a personal level too. A fundamental part of my role is to follow-up with my clients to ensure that they are satisfied with their purchase and their experience with our store. I liaise with my clients regularly, informing them of our new collections and inviting them into our store for one-to-one appointments. I have received very positive feedback from my clients in terms of quality of service and customer care.

*June 2016, 2017, 2018:* The State Examinations Commission – Supervisor & Reader.

In 2016, 2017 and 2018 I acted as reader and supervisor for the Leaving Certificate and Junior Certificate examinations in a variety of subjects. This role carries with it a responsibility to act with care and accuracy when handling important documents. Furthermore, there is an inherent responsibility within this role to act with honesty and integrity at all times, I believe these are values that are essential to the functioning of a successful solicitor/client relationship.

*June 2017 – August 2017:* Nordstrom, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada – Sales Advisor.

While spending a summer abroad in Vancouver on a working visa, I took up a sales associate position in Nordstrom, one of the United States’ and Canada’s leading department stores in their flagship store in Vancouver. Working abroad provided me with the opportunity to understand how to adapt to unfamiliar surroundings and to support myself.

*June 2015 – June 2017:* The Loop, Aer Rianta International, Dublin Airport – Sales Advisor.

This particular role was very rewarding as I learned how to deal with a wide variety of clients and their very differing demands while all the time being conscious of ensuring the highest levels of customer service. Another aspect of the role which proved to be very formative was the fact that the working day was scheduled on a shift basis meaning having to manage start times ranging from 12.00pm to 8.00pm to 4.00am.

**Skills Profile**

*Clear communication:*

I am a confident public speaker and I understand the importance of listening attentively to the opinions of others and providing a coherent response. I have taken part in debates in school in both English and Irish to a successful level. I have carried this through to University, where I compete in Moot competitions. My next competition is the National Moot competition where I will compete through Irish and represent UCD in Kings Inn.

*Decency*

I am an understanding, trustworthy and approachable person – qualities that are necessary when dealing with clients who can be ill-at-ease when faced with legal processes. I hope that in the future my clients will see me as a calming influence and someone in whom they can confide during what can to them be tense and stressful situations. At present, my colleagues often come to me for advice in relation to professional and personal issues and know that I will always give my honest opinion. This kind of support system is crucial to a successful working environment.

*Customer Service:*

As a result of 4 years of retail experience I have developed exceptional customer service skills – which I firmly believe are essential for a career in law. I take pride in my ability to deal with my clients to a high standard in order to ensure they are completely satisfied with their experience. My customer service skills have been developed greatly, particularly with my current role being so client-focused. I keep in touch with my clients and advise them, skills which are indispensable in a career in law*.*

*Team-player:*

While I can work to a high standard on my own, I am very capable of working as part of a team. I understand that communication and sacrifice are the fundamental aspects of working successfully together as a team.

*Accuracy:*

Accuracy and attention to detail are very important skill sets in any walk of life but particularly so when dealing with legal matters – I possess these qualities and have a proven track record in this regard in terms of my work experience and studies to date.

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**Personal Achievements**

*Athletics (Javelin):*

* Leinster Club Champion in 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010 & 2009
* Leinster Schools’ Champion in 2013 & 2012
* All-Ireland Club Champion in 2013 & 2012
* All-Ireland Schools’ Champion in 2013 & 2012
* Runner-Up in the National Community Games in 2012 & 2011.
* Represented Ireland at the Celtic Games in Aberdeen in August 2012 and again the following year in Dublin
* Represented Leinster at the Tailteann Games in 2013 & 2012.

*Negotiation:*

McCann Fitzgerald Negotiation Competition held by the Student Legal Service in UCD: Semi-Finalist.

**Interests & Hobbies:**

*Athletics:* I train regularly and when I return home I assist in the coaching of the younger athletes. This role has taught me how to be patient, understanding and above all it has reinforced my love for the sport and it is a constant reminder of why I started athletics in the first place. I have helped to organise fundraising events for my club – we have annual flag days and bag-packing in order to raise money for new equipment and the maintenance of our grounds.

**References:** Available upon request.

**First Year:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Constitutional Law: Institutional Framework of the Constitution of Ireland** | **B+** |
| **Negligence and Related Matters** | **B** |
| **Criminal Procedure** | **B** |
| **Global Marketplace** | **B** |
| **General Introduction to the Irish Legal System** | **B** |
| **Teanga na Gaeilge I** | **A** |
| **Constitutional Law: Fundamental Rights under the Constitution of Ireland** | **B-** |
| **Nominate Torts** | **B-** |
| **Civil Procedure** | **C** |
| **Contract: Vitiating Factors and Remedies** | **B+** |
| **General Introduction to Comparative Legal Studies** | **C+** |
| **Contract Formation** | **B+** |

**Second Year:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Company Law I** | **B** |
| **EU Constitutional Law** | **C+** |
| **Property Law I** | **B-** |
| **Criminal Liability** | **B** |
| **Matrimonial Law and Reliefs** | **B** |
| **Interpersonal and Teamwork Skills: Personal and Professional Development** | **B+** |
| **Forbairt na Gaeilge Acadúla** | **B+** |
| **Company Law II** | **B** |
| **EU Economic Law** | **B+** |
| **Property Law II** | **C+** |
| **Criminal Offences and Defences** | **B-** |
| **Family and Child Law** | **B** |

**Third Year:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Equity: History, Doctrines, Remedies** | **C-** |
| **Media Law** | **B+** |
| **Criminology: Criminal Justice and Penology** | **B** |
| **Employment Law: Employment Rights** | **B-** |
| **Intellectual Property Law** | **B+** |
| **Psychology of Media and Entertainment** | **B+** |
| **Employment Law: The Contract of Employment** | **B** |
| **Overview of Law Relating to Creation and Administration of Trusts** | **C+** |
| **Criminological Theory** | **B-** |
| **Commercial Law** | **B** |
| **The Lawyer, Professional Ethics & Legal Practice** | **B-** |
| **Sports Law** | **C** |

**Overall Result: 2.1**