**Seán Ballance**

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**Personal Overview:** I have a legal and financial education, currently preparing for the Law Society FE1 Examinations. I completed a MSc in Finance in Trinity College Dublin and a BCL in Law and Accounting in Maynooth University. I also represent Ireland in both Tag Rugby and Touch Rugby.

**Education:**

**2019-2020 Trinity Business School, Trinity College Dublin, MSc Finance [2:1, 65.4%]**

Deepened understanding and knowledge of financial and capital markets, including details of financial instruments and the applicability of these instruments in real world scenarios.

Leadership and teamwork skills gained through leading group projects, involving delegating tasks and problem solving. Presented investment pitches on two group projects and improved communication skills by working with individuals from different nationalities. Achieved distinction in my dissertation on the topic of the WeWork IPO withdrawal, improving research and editorial skills. Overall, the challenge of studying a different discipline increased my confidence and contributed overall to my enjoyment of the masters programme.

**2016-2019 Maynooth University, BCL Law and Accounting [2:1, 60.7%]**

Gained an extensive knowledge in both fields in a unique undergraduate combination. Completed eight core legal modules in addition to employment and media law as elective modules. Developed organisational, research and critical thinking skills through the completion of assignments throughout. I have applied the knowledge learned in subsequent legal and accounting internships.

**2010-2016** **St. Andrews College Dublin [460 points]**

Leaving Cert (Hons): Maths, French, English, Geography, Accounting, Music, Physics, Irish (Ord)

**Legal Work Experience:**

**Eversheds Sutherland Summer Internship Programme 2019: 28th May – 9th August (11 weeks)**

Worked in Corporate Department with a senior partner. Gained insight into commercial legal practice and the communication, organisational and delegation skills required. Skills developed include:

* Drafting and researching skills: drafting board minutes and reviewing a company’s constitution, drafting legal memos on topics including mergers and powers of attorney.
* Problem-solving and attention to detail skills: tracing a company’s unknown share capital history and assisting in the resolution of client queries.
* Presentation skills: delivered a group presentation on a social media campaign for the firm at the end of the internship.
* Personal development: became more mature and confident in the workplace. Gained great experience at the firm motivating me to pursue a future career in a commercial law firm.

**Other Work experience:**

**Verve Marketing: Part Tine Crew Work: 22nd November 2019 – Current**

Completed set up work for events putting up branding and advertisements for clients in large scale events such as the Guinness Six Nations Matches. Teamworking, project management and adaptability skills developed through working anti-social hours and performing efficiently during night-time hours to complete projects where deadlines were critical. Work is currently minimal due to the effects of COVID-19.

**Groupon: Student Intern Talent Development International Jan 2018 – May 2018 (Part-Time) and August 2018 (Full Time)**

Management, organisation and project management skills were gained through organising and allocating employees to specific online trainings, dealing with employees from various countries in Europe and the associated logistics. Responsibilities included; managing the progress of employees, ensuring employees kept up to date and completed mandatory trainings before the deadline.

Research and communication skills were enhanced through assisting in constructing a presentation on Irish employment law procedures for hiring and terminating employees. This also taught me about the application of law in a company and the presentation of legal regulations.

**PKF O’Connor, Leddy & Holmes: 6 Week and 7 Week Summer Internship: May – July 2017 and June – July 2018**

Accuracy and time keeping skills were improved by completing audit accounts for presentation to clients and included as part of their financial statements. These tasks required meeting strict deadlines.

Analytical skills were gained through assisting in the tax calculations of foreign income for a client. Organisation skills and increased responsibility during the second internship as I was given more challenging tasks including completing final accounts to be presented to clients. This increased my responsibility in the firm and allowed me to develop more as an individual from the experience.

**Interests and Achievements:**

**Rugby: Ireland Men’s Open Touch Rugby Team – 2018-Current**

Played in the European Touch Championships in 2018 which was held in Nottingham University. I also played in the 2019 Touch World Cup which was held in Malaysia during the final year of my undergraduate degree, allowing me to develop organisational and management skills as it required me to devote significant time to both my studies and my training.

**Rugby: Ireland Men’s Open Tag Rugby Team – 2018-Current**

Played in the 2018 Tag World Cup in Coffs Harbour, Australia during the final year of my undergraduate degree which required personal discipline to ensure equal preparation between my studies and the tournament. In 2019, we played test series’ against South Africa and Great Britain.

**Trading: WHU Finance Society Trading Challenge – 2019**

I finished 12th out of 495 participants in an online equities portfolio competition. Creativity and analytical skills were developed from this competition having to outperform fellow students in the return earned through investing virtually in the real equities markets.

**Other interests: Rugby, Soccer, Piano, Gaisce – 2014-Current**

Played Senior Cup Rugby for two years in Secondary School and currently play club rugby with Old Wesley RFC. Played soccer with Dalkey United where I captained the team and took part in a match which was part of ‘The Gathering’ in 2017. Completed Grade 7 Piano Exam from the Royal Irish Academy of Music. I also completed the Bronze Medal for the Gaisce Presidents Award in 2014.