

Dear Beth Onslow,

I am a recent graduate of European Studies and I am applying for your Summer Internship program. I aim to pursue a career in law and I believe that the unparalleled professional training provided by ByrneWallace, would be the optimum start to my graduate career. Your reputation as a progressive, ambitious firm providing exceptional service to clients, firmly distinguishes ByrneWallace from other Irish Law firms. The opportunity to gain insight into the role and responsibilities of a trainee, as well as involvement in challenging and interesting work is indicative of a well rounded internship. Furthermore, it is important to me to gain experience with a firm that fosters a positive learning environment, collegial atmosphere and a community spirit, all of which are intrinsic to your ethos.

I am motivated, competent and someone who enjoys being challenged. Throughout my years of study in Trinity College I consistently demonstrated my strong academic ability, graduating with a 2.1 in European Studies. My degree permitted me to choose a variety of modules that gave me an interdisciplinary education in areas such as European history, EU politics, philosophy and sociology, further developing my ability to interpret complex theories and critically analyse texts. A language based degree afforded me the opportunity to improve my language skills in both Spanish and Italian, as well as gain a greater insight into Spanish and Italian history, society and politics. Language assessment often involved group work, presentations and public speaking which further developed my communication skills. In my third year of university I had the opportunity to study in the University of Zaragoza, this not only enabled me to become proficient in Spanish but also benefited me as an enriching cultural exchange.

Throughout university I worked as an illustrator for The University Times. I relished the creativity of my job; however, I wanted to become more involved and help in the production of the paper. In final year I successfully obtained the role of Illustrations Editor, a role that was both rewarding and enjoyable, requiring dedication and diligence. My role taught me how to work within a team by listening to others and delegating work appropriately. It also improved my organisational skills in regards to both managing my team and my ability to balance society commitments and academic work as well as sport and a part time job.

I have always had a nascent interest in law and since leaving the nurturing educational environment of university, I feel compelled to return to an environment equally intellectually stimulating and challenging. The opportunity to gain experience and practical legal awareness at one of Ireland's leading law firms, working alongside and learning from successful professionals who are experts in their fields would be invaluable to me.

Thank you for taking the time to review my application.

Yours sincerely,
Alice McKenna.