

With the support of the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union





UNIVERSITÄT DES SAARLANDES

APPLICATION TRAINING CHERRY KENT

Masters LCT - Summer School

25 August 2020

Welcome!

Please switch your microphone off



INTRODUCTIONS



3 key questions:

- 1. Who is this lady?
- 2. Why is she here?
- 3. What will I learn?

1. WHO AM IS

- I am British and Luxembourgish (latter citizenship acquired in 2017)
- I speak fluent French, some German and enough Luxembourgish to pass the language test!!
- Secret skill: I can juggle!Not on my CV ©











2. WHY AM I HERE? MY BACKGROUND

- Degree in Human Resource Management with French (2:1, with Distinction in Spoken French)
- 5 years working at KPMG
 Luxembourg in HR Dept –
 international recruitment (lots and lots of CVs seen!)
- 5 years working at Clifford Chance in Luxembourg (– HR Manager (lots more CVs seen!)
- Summary: I have inside knowledge as an international recruiter and want to help!!









3. WHAT WILL I LEARN TODAY?!

 Some insider tips and advice for your CV based on my experience



 How to prepare an application pack that will help you find an internship



 How best to ensure you get interviews and one day, get your dream job!

THE TRAINING



3 key areas:

- 1. CV & covering letter
- 2. Interviews
- 3. FAQ

1. CV & COVERING LETTER INTRO

"Think of a covering letter as a glass of brandy. It's a short measure, quite potent - you'll know very quickly whether you like it or not, and it's very easy to judge the quality.

A CV is more like a glass of wine. It's a bit longer, and whilst, like brandy, it's basically fermented fruit juice, it takes more time to grade, and probably a bit more skill."

- David Welsh, Richmond Solutions



Andy Example 12, Kirche Strasse D-22540 Stadt Germany Andy.example@gmail.de Tel: +49 123 456 789 15.08.96

PROFILE

A serious and hardworking final year Bachelor student in Economics & Law at the University of Saarland in Germany, I am looking for an opportunity to work in an international law firm during my 6-month semester abroad and gain some understanding of the UK legal banking system. Through my studies, I have discovered that I have a strong work ethic, like taking on new challenges and being part of large-scale projects - plus I thrive on meeting tight deadlines! I really enjoy working in a multilingual setting and believe I will be able to bring my cultural awareness, language skills and knowledge of cross-border legal issues to the advantage of a global law firm. I am a confident and outgoing person with strong personal drive to produce quality work and ensure I add value during my next challenge.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Allen & Overy GmbH, Cologne, Germany 15 July 2015 - 30 September 2015

- Summer internship in the Banking & Finance department (25 lawyers, 3 Partners)
- Undertook research on the topic of Real Estate Investment Funds for Swiss clients
- . Worked in a team of lawyers attending conference calls with the US and Paris offices
- Was offered to return next Summer to continue my research on the topic of International Banking law, where I will write my thesis on 'Regulation and Rates -Chaos to Order in post crisis setting' which I hope to publish through my university

Trust Officer Assistant

Schmitt & Steinhauser, Diekirch, Luxembourg

15 September 2014 - 26 December 2014

- . Mandatory work experience assisting various lawyers with correspondence, minutes of board meetings, AGM's and setting up companies in a small team of 3.
- . Used my French, German and English language skills daily in a multilingual setting

European Central Bank, Frankfurt, Germany

01 July 2013 - 30 July 2013

 Interim contract to assist with data entry for the Accounting department and work on the IT department's project to install new tax software - here I learned more SQL

Customer Assistant

Aldi, Munich, Germany 13 January 2010 - 31 August 2012

- . Worked principally as a Cashier during school holidays to assist during busy times
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EDUCATION

2013 - 2016 Saarland University, Saarbrucken, Germany Bachelor in Economics & Law (expected result of 80%)

2012 - 2013 Ecole Supérieure du Havre, Normandie, France Erasmus year at French Business School (95% average grade)

2009 - 2012 Lycée Franco-German, Munich, Germany Abitur (equivalent to A-level), passed with 80-95% for all subjects. Major in Maths & French

COMPUTER SKILLS/FURTHER QUALIFICATIONS

Microsoft Office Applications: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, PeopleSoft, Bloomberg, SQL

Evening classes or other training, or skills this can be anything from swimming certificates to further education to qualified snowboard teacher, often something of relevance to the job.

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Reading: Crime novels, currently reading Tony Parsons' 'Slaughter Man'. Cinema: I enjoy European and alternative movies, particularly films by Director Luc Besson Jogging: I took part in a 10k City Jogging/Race for Life charity run in November 2015 Cooking: Particularly Asian cuisine, Attended 3 day course "How to make Sushi" in May 2012

LANGUAGES

German: Mother tongue
French: Fluent (studied for 3 years and spent 1 year abroad as part of exchange programme) English: Fluent (studied for 10 years and passed the latest international test at level 95%)

REFERENCES

Available upon request

No need to write 'CV'

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Andy.example@gmail.de Tel: +49 123 456 789 15.08.96 German Obviously an email address!

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Focussed statement on what you are looking for, and your key attributes

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IT Assistan

European Central Bank, Frankfurt, Germany 01 July 2013 - 30 July 2013 Reverse chronological order

Bullet points; shortened sentences

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Include summer jobs, traineeships, temporary work – critical for teaching & SLT posts

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Reverse chronological order; e.g. Erasmus studies may help demonstrate your language skills

Include any further training that may be relevant to the position

As well as showing your human side, this section may be a talking point at interview

Do include your mother tongue; most fluent language first; mention any time spent abroad

Three words are all you need here!

1. CV - TONE & CONTENT

- ► Absolute honesty throughout! But... ;-)
- ▶ Tailored to the position
 - personal profile clarifies the elements of your current position and key attributes, that relate directly to the job
 - CV tailored to highlight the most relevant elements
- ► Emphasis on transferable skills and competencies
 - use bullets to highlight key achievements in each section

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1. CV - TIPS & ADVICE

▶ Use of logos and/or icons – can make an impact visually









- Use of colour do choose a theme and also ensure it prints well in black & white (I like Canva.com)
- ▶ Refer to your online profile. LinkedIn is most helpful here.
- Spell-check it, print it and ask a friend to check it looks OK
- Save it as a relevant name e.g. 'Andy Example CV Toll Bank', not just anon style 'CV version 1(1)' in PDF and include covering letter and CV together as a pack

1. CV – WHAT TO AVOID

- ► Too much text, too much detail, this is your ticket to an interview where they can ask more questions (travel documents on to the next stage). And you want to travel!
- ► Too much personal information, e.g. if married, have children, what parents do, passport ID number, siblings, pets...;-)
- ▶ No need to add a date to the bottom saves space and is implicit that it is current. Date required on letter.
- ▶ No signature, it is assumed it is you and therefore irrelevant
- ► No references or Zeugnis pack or references only 'references available on request'. May be verified later
- ► Unprofessional photos or inappropriate dress just smile!
- ► Avoid language around your skills which may give the impression of arrogance...

1. CV – WHAT TO AVOID

If called to interview
I would a discuss
the be and
salary

Through his studies, work or vol 'ary roles he quired the ability reet deadlis maintaining a nigh standard of work

► Examples in Profile section

I would love a carc your firm der to im, or my English

During my degree I successful mbined my studies of and other companied und capable of working under pressure

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CV EXAMPLES FROM CANVA.COM



CIA RODRIGUEZ

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

MAIN OBJECTIVE

I am a high school graduate who hopes that can help me pursue a degree in journalism. I'm interested in news

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Most Promising Young Writer (2019) Best Investigative Report (2018) Best News Writer (2017)
- CONTACT DETAILS

Home: 123-456-7890 hello@reallygreatsite.com www.reallygreatsite.com 123 Anywhere Street. Any City. State.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Magazine Contributor

- ACADEMIC HISTORY

Beechtown High School

Kyobi Elementary School

MAIN INTERESTS

CAN BE PERSONALISED!



CHERRY **KENT**

FREELANCE HR TRAINER

MAIN OBJECTIVE

to obtain a full academic scholarship that can help me pursue a degree in journalism. I'm interested in news

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Best Staff Writer (2020)
- Most Promising Young Writer (2019) Best Investigative Report (2018)

CONTACT DETAILS

Cherry.kent19@gmail.com

621 437 486

LinkedIn.com/in/cherry-kent-a664694

WORK EXPERIENCE

Magazine Contributor

ACADEMIC HISTORY

Beechtown High School

MAIN INTERESTS

I am not affiliated with canva.com but recommend looking at their CV (resume) templates for style inspiration, also google documents and Adobe Illustrator have similar options



Work History

PERSONAL TRAINER

Jung BAKS Membership Gym | 2018 - present

Assisted a number of clients through daily workout programs geared toward their personal fitness goals with accompanying well-researched

FOOTBALL TEAM CAPTAIN

Beechtown High School | 2016 - 17

Ensured high morale and quality sportsmanship among all members of the football team and assisted in making appropriate strategies and training regimens.

Education History

AH BIJOU STATE UNIVERSITY

Football Varsity Player | 2018 - present

- Currently majoring in Business Administration with a minor in Sociology
- Joined the ABSU Football Team in 2019 Joined the ABSU Business Society in 2018

BEECHTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

- Football Team Captain | 2013 2017
- Graduated with a 3.7 GPA Football Team Captain from 2015-2017 Won 3rd Place in the 11th BHS Science Fair
- Named Most Likely to Succeed in Class of 2017

Personal Profile

Contact Details

Championship Wins

Notable Skills

HOWARD ONG

CAREER SUMMARY

Lead Operations Officer

Manreka Financial Group | May 2020 - Present

Develops and executes tactical plans and financial strategies for several projects

Zim & Core Company | May 2018 - April 2020

- Developed the training manual currently being utilized by the company.

ACADEMIC HISTORY

Master of Science in Manufacturing Engineering

September 2018 - May 2020 Excelled in Product Design 2nd Runner Up for the Best Thesis Award

Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Technology

Graduated Magna Cum Laude 1st Place, San Dias MET Competition 2017



JACQUELINE THOMPSON

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

PERSONAL PROFILE

I'm an experienced graphic designer illustration. I package my creativity alongside my strong work ethic.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- · Awarded hest designer at the
- Beechtown Design Awards - Led multiple award-winning
- Featured in San Dias Tribune's

"Designers to Watch"

CONTACT INFORMATION

Home (123) 456 7890 Email: hello@reallygreatsite.com Portfolio: www.reallygreatsite.com Address: 123 Anywhere Street, Any City

MY REFERENCES

Julia Lloyd, Heiman Creative Labs (123) 456 7890 hello@reallygreatsite.com Ralph Hudson, Dieson Advertising (123) 456 7890

hello@reallygreatsite.com

WORK HISTORY

Senior Graphic Designer

Heiman Creative Labs. 2020 to Present

- In charge of leading the team in conceptualizing campaigns
- Handles all layout and design proposals
- Ensures brand guidelines are followed in all projects

Graphic Designer

Dieson Advertising Group, 2016 to 2020

- Designed various marketing collaterals for clients
- Delivered striking and compelling designs

PREVIOUS EDUCATION

Longoria University

Bachelor of Arts in Visual Communication, 2015

- Maintained a 3.8 GPA
- Graduated with honor
- Head of the Graphic Design Circle
- University Magazine Creative Director - Varsity member of the softball team

Creekroad High School

High School Diploma, Class of 2011

- Graduated Valedictorian
- Co-founder and President of the Creekroad Graphic Design Society
- Managing Editor for the yearbook

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BREAK 10 MINS



Challenge 1:

- Who has a skill that can be shown live on Zoom?
- Answer in chat and I will choose one after the break
- See you soon ©

1. COVERING LETTER - FORMAT & LAYOUT

Andy Example
12, Kirche Strasse
D-22540 Stadt
Germany
Andy.example@gmail.de
Tel: +49 123 456 789
15.08.96
German

15th March 2016

Re: Summer Internship in the Banking dept - Toll Bank GmbH

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to apply for the above position mentioned that I saw advertised on 10th March

This position has really caught interest as I am currently a final year Bachelor student in Economics & Law at the University of Saarland in Germany and I am looking for just such an opportunity to work in an international law firm at the end of my studies and gain some understanding of the UK legal banking system. I am fascinated by this area and would love the opportunity to deepen my knowledge in this area through an internship with such a firm as Toll Bank GmbH.

Through my studies, I have discovered that I have a strong work ethic, like taking on new challenges and being part of large-scale projects - plus I thrive on meeting tight deadlines! I really enjoy working in a multilingual setting and believe I will be able to bring my cultural awareness, language skills and knowledge of cross-border legal issues to the advantage of a global law firm. I am German native and also speak French and English fluently, which I feel would be a great addition to the international environment and global deals inherent in such an internation.

I also feel that as a confident and outgoing person with strong personal drive to produce quality work and ensure I add value during my next challenge; I will fit well in a multilingual team of professionals.

language skills, I would be ideally suited to complete such an internship and bring a great deal of positive attributes to the advantage of Toll Bank GmbH and I would be delighted to meet you in person to discuss my application further.

Yours faithfully,

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I therefore feel that with the knowledge gained through my studies in this area and my language skills, I would be ideally suited to complete such an internship and bring a great deal of positive attributes to the advantage of Toll Bank GmbH and I would be delighted to meet you in person to discuss my application further.

Yours faithfully,

Andy

Maximum one page & 3-4 main paragraphs

Format & layout match your CV

Use a specific name if known... in which case, sign off with 'Yours sincerely'

Focus on what you can offer, rather than talking about the firm

1. COVERING LETTER - TONE & CONTENT

► As a direct communication to your potential employer, the covering letter is an opportunity to:

set a friendly tone & give a personal touch to your application

highlight key points of your CV



demonstrate your professional writing style

explain e.g. gaps in your employment history

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First line – where you learnt of the job

Opening paragraph:

- i. current status
- ii. what you are looking for
- iii. why you find this position particularly interesting and suitable

2nd paragraph: why you / your background would be particularly well-suited to the role

3rd paragraph: personal qualities & perhaps availability

summary & offer of availability for interview

1. COVERING LETTER - TIPS & ADVICE

- ► Tailor the covering letter to each opportunity your CV will have more fixed points, but your covering letters should be individual to the role and should answer the question 'why should I see you?'
- ▶ Before sending, double-check the company name and position details etc. are correct leaving in details from your previous application will likely lead to rejection, as will spelling any names incorrectly
- ► The company already knows what they do use the opportunity to talk about yourself!
- ▶ Send your covering letter and CV as a single PDF document, to ensure they are reviewed or printed together. Even if you apply on a website/online

1. COVERING LETTER – WHAT TO AVOID!

 Spelling or grammatical errors – find a native speaker to review both CV and covering letter – minimal tolerance for errors, even if not your mother tongue

> I am writing to apply for the above position mentioned that I saw advertised on 10th March 2016 on Monster coluk

- ▶ In most sectors, your application is not the place to demonstrate your creativity more freedom where directly relevant to the job e.g. Marketing or PR
- ► Too many clichés use your own words
- Avoid emojis / smiley faces, and casual abbreviations ('LOL'), as you would in any business correspondence

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1. YOU HAVE YOUR TICKETS! BRAVO!

- Home Truth: You have to apply a lot to get any response at all, but don't give up. Aim to apply to 20 companies (October), then another 20 (November), then another 20 (January). Then wait!
- Home Truth: use your network, many people still get jobs through friends of friends, family, relatives, don't be afraid to use it
- Home Truth: companies don't like to give honest feedback about why you were rejected, its awkward, its not personal, its complicated, just never give up as it will all work out ©
- So what have we learned today? Here is a quiz to see...

QUIZ TIME!

How long should my CV be?

2 pages maximum!

Should I include references?

No - simply say 'References available upon request'

Do I have to include every job I ever did, to avoid gaps in my employment history?

Not necessarily, if not relevant to the position, but recent gaps should be explained

Do I always need a covering letter?

Yes, even when applying through a structured website, always send pack

QUIZ TIME!

What do I say about my expected degree result? "I am on course to achieve..."

I have limited work experience and/or hobbies, how should I handle this?

Look to identify transferable skills, even if you only did bar work and babysitting, include it!

How do I cover my 'salary expectations'?

You don't! Best avoided at the application stage, unless it is specifically requested by the employer

My CV is a little outdated, can I use it anyway?

Finding the right job/internship is important, so it's worth investing the time to prepare a tailored, up-to-date and professional looking application.

* See LinkedIn CV GIF – new to me and "just saying"

SUMMARY PART 1

- Look at Canva.com, Google documents, Adobe Illustrator etc for inspiration. Spend time investing in your CV once prepared, you have them as a template for life and should only need small changes in the future and for each new experience and achievement.
- You have a wonderful situation doing this European Masters Program LCT. You are free to find your passion and pursue it. Show off your motivation, use your tickets and go for it 100%
- Summer School is a great programme and opportunity to get to know each other, build your network, find your interests, learn new skills and get great advice. Enjoy it!

And the next step in the process is job interviews...

BREAK 10 MINS



Challenge 2:

- Draw a vegetable!
- Answer in chat: ' if
 you were a
 vegetable which
 one would you be &
 why?'
- See you soon ©

INTERVIEWS



Part 2:

- Interview practice
- Volunteers required, raise your hand
- 3 practice sessions (classic style, competency based and random!)

INTERVIEWS



Classic:

- 30-45 minutes with HR
 +1 person from dept
- Friendly chat and no trick questions
- Treat it like a date!

 Lets go and others give feedback & questions in the chat

2.1. CLASSIC INTERVIEW: FEEDBACK

- Smile, relax and enjoy it you are nearly there
 AND you are the hot date!
- Be honest, be human, be yourself a chance to tell your story and sell yourself
- Mention that you have other interviews if you can. Use your 'tickets' to get 3 or 4 interviews.

INTERVIEWS



Competency-based:

- 1 hour with HR + psychometric test
- Skill set/experience based discussions
- STAR Methodology!

 Lets go and others give feedback & questions in the chat

2.2. COMPETENCY INTERVIEW: STAR

STAR METHOD:

- Situation I was a Saleswoman in a shop
- Task- I was responsible for Summer Sales
- Actions I planned items to be promoted, trained the sales team
- Results Everything done on time, items easy to find, well presented, increased profits 15%!



2.2. COMPETENCY INTERVIEW: FEEDBACK

- Have examples pre-prepared based on real life stories, in life, not just work or experience
- Take time to think and communicate this openly
- Explain it is your first experience and that is the most interesting interview you have had so far!

BREAK 10 MINS



Challenge 3:

- Tell us an interview story!
- Answer in chat:

 'Have you ever got a job/internship
 from online
 interview alone? '
- See you soon ©

SUMMARY PART 2

- Be prepared to talk through your CV, answer the dreaded strengths/Weaknesses, and have some life experiences you can draw upon and use when asked (STAR, hobbies)
- Relax and enjoy the time getting to know the people, ask questions. Be positive, light & breezy, just like a first date
- Mention you have other interviews, or when you are in the home country. Mention your research on the company.
- You should hear within the month, either second round interviews, rejection ora job offer!! Result: Who-hoo!

Take the job you prefer, learn & have fun and if you don't like it, just repeat steps 1 and 2;-)

INTERVIEWS



Random:

- Unprepared, nervous interviewers or trying too hard
- Circumstances beyond your control
- Treat it like a date!

 Lets go and others give feedback & questions in the chat

FAQ



Part 3:

- What about my social media?
- Should I put a photo on my CV?
- Should I wear a tie during an online interview?
- Should I accept a drink – in person?
- Is European Pass acceptable?

FAQ



Part 3:

- Questions on chat...
- New questions, feel free to open mics ©
- Get connected with me on LinkedIn or send me your CV.
- Cherry.kent19@gmail.com

MANAGING YOUR ONLINE PROFILE

- ▶ LinkedIn is the default:
 - assume your profile will be checked
 - make sure it is up to date and complete
 - include a good professional photo
- ► Xing is generally for German job markets
- ► Facebook / Twitter / Instagram etc.
 - may be checked, probably on a superficial level
 - no need to remove all traces of your individual character, but is there anything you wouldn't want your current or future employer to see?
 - does your profile pic make you appear happy, smiling, confident?



THANK YOU! ©

- Best of luck.
- You have something to offer the world!
- Enjoy your Masters program and the rest of the Summer School

