# WHY IT MATTERS... BUSINESS & ECONOMICS



# Loughborough University

## Kyren Routledge

## Marketing and Development - Sustainability

The absolute breadth of my job matches the absolute breadth of my degree. Studying international business really allowed me to understand the ins and outs of a truly global business. Speaking to a Thai supply chain colleague; my degree allowed me to understand and appreciate the cultural nuances of that interaction. Finance modules allowed me to understand the guarterly results, impact on the



cash-flow, EBITDA and balance sheet. Organisational modules really help with understanding the ways that companies and people operate.

The beauty of the degree is that it really takes into account the international side of the various modules and develops your understanding within the context of the international sphere.

For me, the placement year was an integral part of choosing a course. The chance to go out and put the things you learn into practical use, coupled with earning money, networking and living somewhere else are all amazing opportunities. The great thing about IB is that the year in industry is compulsory, so you start and finish with the same people you started on day one with.

Post 16 Education	Higher Education
A Levels History, Economics & German	BSc (Hons) International Business

## Why did you choose to study business?

I really didn't know what I wanted to do, I knew I enjoyed economics and I wanted to work with people, business seemed like the perfect course. What Loughborough really offered me was the chance to study business in an international context, bringing in my love of cultures and people with a placement year, giving context to all the things I'd learnt in my degree.

During negotiations now, I often think back to relevant modules. Skills such as excel, interpersonal skills and understanding organisations underpin all companies, whether they are large or small.

International Business also gave me the breadth to really choose any industry I wanted to, this freedom was brilliant for me (as someone who often can't sit still!).

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### Kyren's experience as a student

Loughborough undoubtedly gives you every opportunity to thrive and develop. I truly believe Loughborough is very special in the fact that the campus and hall system allows each hall to have their own personality and develop individuals to find their niche in a safe and fun environment.

From the offset by encouraging you to get involved as student representatives, or in the Students' Union you are able to develop public speaking, time management and feel like you are contributing. On top of that, the amazing sports facilities mean you can always find something/someone with similar interests to you.

## Kyren's Career

I work for a chemical company called INEOS; the UK's largest private company. We make products along the whole chemical value chain. Specifically I work for the subsidiary INOVYN, working with customers, suppliers, the plants and management to develop new initiatives and create a sustainable future for our products.

I worked in investment banking for my placement year, but quickly realised it wasn't for me so looked for something with physical products and travel. I discovered the INEOS commercial graduate scheme it gave me exactly what I wanted!

**Kyren's advice:** Be open minded with what you do, over time you'll find the things you love and more importantly the things you really dislike. For me it was sitting at the same desk all day – there's nothing worse I could think of.

Go to university, study something that gets you up in the morning and excited. The job and career will follow, don't stress!

## Loughborough University offers undergraduate degrees in the following areas:

Accounting and Financial Management, Finance and Management, Business Analytics, International Business, Management, Marketing and Management, Economics, Business Economics and Finance, Economics and Management.

All Loughborough's degrees offer the opportunity to include a professional placement as an integral part of the degree.