

'Few decisions affect the future as much as going to study at a university or college...'

UCAS is the UK's centralised higher education admissions service. We track choices and decisions across millions of applications for higher education – half of all young people pass through our systems. This generates big, deep, and rich operational data. Buried in this data are the key insights and understanding about going to university. UCAS is committed to finding these insights to deliver our mission of connecting people to higher education.

It can be hard for graduates to learn the full set of skills needed to be a leading data scientist, so UCAS has launched a paid Data Scientist Internship programme to fast-track graduates into this profession. The programme is based in the UCAS Analysis and Research business unit, which leads in the application of data science techniques to one of the richest decision data sets in the world.

The Analysis and Research Team uses the powerful, industry standard SAS software system. It specialises in the core skills of analytical programming, which are needed by the best data scientists to give them the highest capability to create data structures and analysis.

If you are successful in your application, you will receive:

- full training by experts in analytical programming, including an intensive fast-track SAS programming course
- exposure to a variety of roles across the Analysis and Research Team, where you will be involved in solving real problems from day one and will gain the full range of skills to progress your career
- the support of being paired with one of our leading analysts, and regular meetings with the Director of Analysis and Research
- the opportunity to present your best work to UCAS' Executive Team, and receive support and advice on the next step in your data science career
- a competitive salary to reward your growing skills and contribution to our work

To be considered, you should be able to show that you have:

- exceptional levels of numerate, analytical and logical thinking
- drive to find things out that really matter from data
- potential to learn and apply analytical programming at the highest level
- personal values and attributes for being a leading data scientist

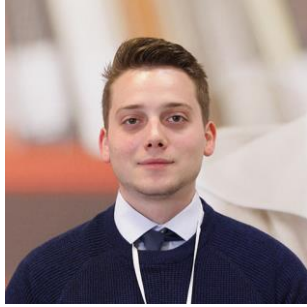
Data scientists come from a variety of backgrounds, but you are most likely to have very strong quantitative skills, reflected in high grades in mathematics or a physical science at A level (or equivalent). You might also have some computer programming experience. Being able to pair your ideas with the ability to create results through structured code is key to these roles.

If you think you have the potential and commitment to succeed on one of our Data Scientist Internships, then let us know by emailing careers@ucas.ac.uk with:

- a brief CV of your academic and other achievements
- a note (300-600 words) telling us about something you have done which shows your potential to become a data scientist, and why you want to work with us and our data

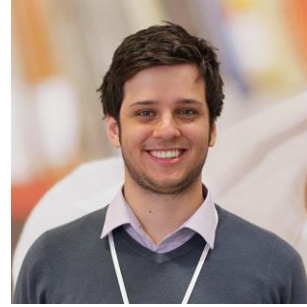
Applications for the 2016 Data Scientist Internship programme should be with us by 17:00 on 11 April 2016.

We will be testing and interviewing candidates between **Monday 25 April** and **Friday 6 May** with successful candidates starting in early September 2016.



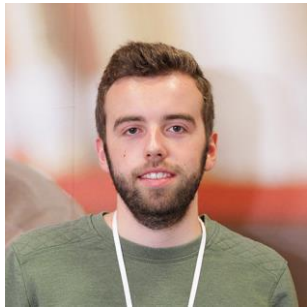
**George Popescu-Craiova, MSc Business Analytics,
Data Scientist Intern, 2015-2016**

'During my internship at UCAS I have been given the support needed to improve my programming and analytical skills, alongside the opportunity to gain industry exposure which will benefit a future career in analytics. The internship programme is an exciting opportunity to combine rigorous statistical models with creative and practical applications. The variety of projects and the range of expertise at UCAS create a great working environment.'



**Charlie Brown, MSc Natural Sciences,
Data Scientist Intern, 2015-2016**

'I'm given the freedom to be independent and creative with my work – it's really exciting to go out of the office and meet some of the people who are interested in and benefit from the work I've done. Everyone in the team is really friendly and helpful and there is a great environment here to develop new skills and kick-start your career in analytics.'



**Dan Brookes, MEng Engineering,
Data Scientist Intern, 2015-2016**

'Working at UCAS has enabled me to develop my programming and analytical skills further. I have contributed towards publications such as the End of Cycle and January deadline reports, videos on the website and the release of the parliamentary constituency data explorer, which presents data in a new way. There is a great working environment here at UCAS and I've been able to learn from experienced data scientists and graduates from the previous intern programme.'



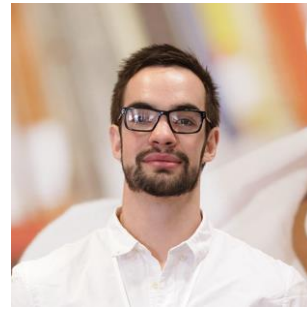
**Amy Denby, BSc Conservation Biology and Ecology,
Data Scientist Intern, 2015-2016**

'Having completed a degree in conservation, I may not have been the most obvious candidate for a data scientist role. However, the combination of training provided by UCAS and welcoming office environment have allowed me to expand upon skills learnt during my degree to become successful in my role. Within weeks of starting my job I was attending meetings with the CEO, allowing me to gain insight on how my work was impacting larger audiences – and already feeling part of the team.'



**Claire Ung, MMath Mathematics,
Data Scientist Intern, 2015-2016**

'My time at UCAS so far has given me the opportunity to enhance the programming skills I gained at university, as well as my communication and analytical skills. The highlight would be when my graphs and analysis were used during the busier deadline months by other departments, enabling me to see how our output affects the overall running of the business.'



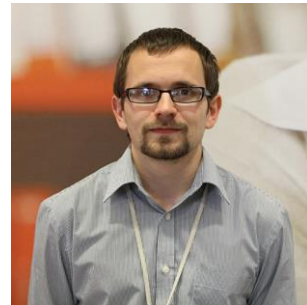
**Greg Moody, MChem Chemistry,
Data Scientist Intern, 2015-2016**

'UCAS has been the ideal start to my career. From the beginning, the support we have received from the entire charity has been brilliant; data really is the big thing at UCAS. On top of this, the training we have received has allowed me to work on interesting and valuable projects straight out of the block.'



**Sher Tang, BSc Discrete Mathematics,
Data Scientist (graduated internship in 2015)**

'By the end of my internship, I had contributed to published reports, had analysis I'd done presented to numerous stakeholders and released daily statistics on acceptances to each provider throughout Clearing. And that's not all. I am under the leadership of experienced analysts but also allowed freedom to develop new products and am constantly researching new insights in applications to higher education. The amount of data that UCAS has is huge and so many people are a part of it. I have learned a lot about how data analytics is used to support the education sector and help connect more people to HE.'



**Kevin James, BEng Mechanical Engineering,
Data Scientist (graduated internship in 2015)**

'I started as a data scientist intern in September 2014 and after completing the one year programme I became a data scientist for UCAS on a permanent basis, where as well as continuing with many of my previous responsibilities, I was also been given the opportunity to develop myself further. I was given all the resources needed to gain my advanced certification in programming. I was given a greater degree of freedom and a higher level of responsibility in the work that I undertake, as I have taken the lead in the development of new reports both public and internal. I have also been given the opportunity help develop the future of my team by acting as a mentor to this year's data scientist interns.'