

Rachel Sullivan

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Sociology graduate with social research and voluntary experience seeking a career in community development, specialising in health awareness.

Education

2018 - 2021

BA (Hons) Sociology (2.1), Newcastle University

Relevant modules included: Sociology of Health and Illness, Current Issues in Health, Social Change and Transformation, Researching Social Life, Social Theory.

- Actively participated in seminars and group discussions, presenting my opinions articulately and concisely.
- Conducted health awareness research with 50 members of the public using questionnaires, interviews, data coding and numerical data analysis.
- Analysed, evaluated and wrote up results in a 12,000 word dissertation entitled 'Generational Change in Local Health Awareness', achieving a mark of 70%.
- Worked effectively as part of a team of five to deliver an assessed group presentation on Humane Cities. As team leader was responsible for supporting other group members, allocating tasks fairly and ensuring project deadline was met.

2011 – 2018 Central School, York

A Levels: Sociology (A) Politics (A) Biology (B)

10 GCSEs: Grades A* - C

Related experience

Sept 2020 - Jan 2021

Healthy Communications Newcastle Work Experience Project, East End Health, Newcastle upon Tyne

- Part of a dedicated team delivering services to tackle health inequalities and promote healthy living across the East End of Newcastle.
- Enhanced primary and secondary research skills when interviewing 100 participants about their health knowledge, and evaluating methods of communicating important health messages to hard to reach communities (ie adults, elderly and Black and Minority Ethnic groups).
- Developed innovative strategies, such as fun days, football matches, 'healthy bingo' and cookery classes to encourage interest in nutrition and general health issues.
- Assessed needs of groups, tailoring my facilitation methods and activities in order to engage users and boost attendance.
- Used verbal and written communication ability to raise the profile of East End Health in local newspapers, on flyers/leaflets, social media and at community group presentations in youth clubs, faith meetings and care homes.

Jul - Aug 2019

Volunteer Teacher and Care worker, Madventurer, Ghana

- Gained an understanding of different learning styles when delivering English lessons to a group of 25 children, aged 7 - 8 years.
 - Worked with teachers and parents to organise a 'Mini Olympics' competition for the school, which was successful in bonding pupils and improving their cultural awareness
 - Cared for young children in a local orphanage, providing supervision, play work and personal care.
 - Identified an issue of limited resources in the school and raised awareness of this via social media and lecture shouts with fellow students, who donated stationary, textbooks and other learning materials after my project ended.
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Additional work experience

Oct 2018 - Apr 2020

JobsOC (various positions), Newcastle University

- Employed as part of a campus-based jobs agency in a range of casual paid work within the University, including cleaning, events and hospitality and clerical support.
- Demonstrated adaptability, flexibility, communication skills and undertook tasks quickly and efficiently due to the temporary nature of the roles.

Dec 2016 - Sept 2018

Sales Colleague, Peacocks, York

- Interacted with members of the public and provided quick and proficient customer service when answering product questions and dealing diplomatically with complaints.
 - Worked competently as part of a team of 16 to maintain clothes displays and sell products, regularly achieving or surpassing set targets.
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Achievements

- Successfully applied for the Alumni Association Student Initiative Fund award to resource the organisation of a charity fashion show. Gained experience of presenting a pitch to committee, raising funds, business planning and efficiently running an event, attended by over 200 people. Raised £650 for 'The Rainbow Trust', which helps seriously ill children.
 - Received 'Pride of Newcastle' achievement award for my work raising health awareness as part of the Healthy Communications Newcastle Work Experience Project.
 - Elected treasurer of NU Sociology Society in 2019, responsible for managing a budget of £3000 and producing regular reports for the Executive Board.
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Additional skills

- IT - proficient in Microsoft Office, including Outlook, Excel, PowerPoint, Word and Access.
 - Languages - conversational French, basic Spanish.
 - Full clean driving licence.
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Interests

- Passionate about cooking and nutrition. Regularly create healthy meals for my flat mates and attend culinary evening classes at a local school to expand my range.
- As an active member of Newcastle Contemporary Dance Academy, take part in local dance recitals and enjoy the challenge of live performances.