



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

APPRENTICE CASE STUDIES

SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING
AND ENVIRONMENT

NAME

PERSEPHONE
GALANIS

PROGRAMME OF STUDY

BSC (HONS)
REAL ESTATE
DEVELOPMENT
AND MANAGEMENT

CURRENT YEAR OF STUDY

GRADUATED,
CURRENTLY
WORKING TOWARDS
MY ASSESSMENT
OF PROFESSIONAL
COMPETENCE

EMPLOYER

MANCHESTER CITY
COUNCIL

 APPRENTICESHIPS

Why did you choose to study an apprenticeship?

When I had decided that I'd like to train as a surveyor, I explored my options (part-time masters, a full-time masters, apprenticeship) but I quickly realised that stopping work and going back to university wasn't an option. The apprenticeship has offered me the chance to study and work as well as the chance to progress to my APC quicker than a more conventional route to becoming chartered.

Looking back over your time on the apprenticeship so far, how have you found the whole experience?

It was tricky balancing full-time work and university on top of the pandemic (plus a house move and a wedding!) but I've proven to myself that I can do it.

How would you describe the support that you've received from the University of Salford?

I felt supported and listened to, especially during the years of the pandemic. The lecturers, in particular, have been encouraging and supportive and I genuinely felt that they wanted to see us all succeed. Now I've finished the degree and working towards my APC there is additional support given outside of the academic work.

What has been your proudest achievement on your apprenticeship to date?

Graduating with a first class honours degree.

What do you want to do once you complete your apprenticeship?

I've already been able to secure the job I wanted as a result of being on the apprenticeship scheme, but I see this process as the start, so I'd like to maintain the momentum and keep learning!



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What would you say to someone considering an apprenticeship?

Give it a go – personally and professionally it has benefited me and also my organisation. It is hard work, but I think the people I've met and the knowledge I've gained has made the late nights and stress worth it. You have the benefit of having support from your employer and your training provider and they will want to see you succeed.

What advice would you give to other women who are interested in pursuing a career in construction?

I chose surveying as a career after working with a female chartered surveyor who encouraged me into the industry, and I think that having a strong female mentor or role model is so important to inspire others. There are still lots of instances where I'm the only woman in the room at work, but I've met women forging ahead in surveying and I hope to be one of those women too. We've got to start somewhere!