

Mark

What subjects did you study prior to arriving in Durham?

I did A-Levels in History, Geography and Classical Civilisation

What were the highlights of studying at Durham?

The seminars were always excellent, and I especially enjoyed both my dissertation (on leadership rivalries in the Battle of Britain, specifically between Churchill and the then head of the RAF, Hugh Dowding) and the special subject I studied (on the origins of the Cold War, 1943-45).



What are you doing now and how did your degree help prepare you?

I went into management consultancy to start with for 5 years, then worked for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games from bid time to the Games, and I am now a teacher. My degree helped me to develop my independence, my ability to find out and scrutinise information for myself, and my ability to formulate and defend an opinion whilst being understanding of the viewpoints of others.

What advice do you have for prospective applicants to History at Durham?

Do it! I always remember revising for an exam on the Wars of the Roses and reading about a battle that took place on Palace Green during that civil war, and looking out of my college window thinking that it had taken place just over there. Living in such a historic city, with the community created by the colleges and the ambition and excellence of my fellow students, has undoubtedly had a profound effect on my life. I am very lucky.