

#StudentofKBS

**Marcella
McCann**

Bachelor of Business Studies

*"My Co-op experience provided me
with essential skills I will use for
life."*



What was your first impression of UL?

It was an exciting campus full of students. The campus was constantly buzzing, almost like its own mini city. There was a constant stream of students travelling from the library, students' union and lecture halls (during the day) and from Stables or Scholars to the city (at night).

Why did you choose the BBS in the University of Limerick, over other universities?

Its great career prospects, as well the diversity within the course. The BBS allows for you to graduate with a general business studies bachelor's degree, while getting the chance try out an array of modules in areas such as economics, accounting and human resources (to name but a few). This made the process of majoring so much easier. The large class sizes also appealed to me as it presented with the chance to meet so many new friends from all over Ireland, and the world. Additionally, the BBS in UL presents with the chance to take part in Erasmus and cooperative education.

What Major and Minor did you choose and why?

I choose the Human Resource Management (HRM) major and Law minor. HRM has provided me with a rounded view of HR from looking at areas such as organisational behaviours, employee voice and industrial relations. I choose the Law minor as it provided me with an understanding of legal concepts and contracts in any organisation. I felt like the HRM major and Law minor work hand-in-hand and will both benefit me in the world of work.

Where did you go on Erasmus?

WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management in Germany. I made friends from all over the world (that I still talk to daily), while getting the opportunity to further my studies in this international college with 3 other UL students.

What is your favourite memory from Erasmus?

Attending Oktoberfest in Munich. After traveling 8 hours by bus we arrived all dressed up in our lederhosen and dirndl. It was a great day with all of the other foreign exchange students and it was an experience to check off the bucket-list. Erasmus also provided the chance to explore many other cities in Europe such as Milan, Berlin, Amsterdam and Cologne, while also learning a new language.

Where did you work for your co-operative education (Co-op)?

I did my co-op with the Health Service Executive (HSE), in the Pensions Management department.



What did you learn from your co-op experience?

Co-op gave me the opportunity to apply the knowledge I gained in my time in UL to the working world. The Pensions Management office gave me a great insight into the financial side of HR. I worked on HSE employees' pensions entitlements and other ad-hoc activities. The experience provided me with skills I will use for life. From a HR perspective, it gave me my first insight into daily HR activities in a company. I learned how to use essential software such as SAP, Excel and IBM.

What was your best memory of UL?

It's impossible to narrow down one best memory of my time in UL as there was so many. Outside of the great nights out in Limerick city on a Thursday, race day and rag week, one of my best memories was from first year when I got to work with a local charity as part of the Social Media for Social Good module. The module entailed us working with the Clíona's Foundation, and making a difference outside of the classroom.

What career are you aiming to have once you graduate from the University of Limerick?

Following graduation, I will be participating in a Masters in Human Resource Studies in Tilburg University in the Netherlands. After my time on Erasmus I was eager to travel more and study abroad, and UL Careers was a great help with the application process.

