

# Ben Turner

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## Personal Statement

A successful and industry credited Creative Professional studying Interaction Design at Ulster University, with a total of six years of personal design and educational experience within the world of Interaction & Media Design. I'm specialized as a User Experience Designer, but you could also consider me a UI Designer, UX Researcher, Video Editor, 3D Modeller, Graphics Designer and much more.

Alongside this, both within and outside of my design career I endeavour to working with the local and wider community, through my role with the Northern Ireland Government to my efforts volunteering. I'm always keen to do my part to make a positive impact and that makes me proud knowing I've made a difference, especially during the current health crisis that we are in together.

My strongest skill is communication – no matter where I am and in what conditions I work in, I always make sure firstly to focus on the job and complete that to the best of my ability, but to also offer good chat, building relationships and partnerships along the way. Feedback I've received includes that I am trustworthy, adaptive, proactive and confident. Supplying the right amount of skill and character to the workplace.

## Work Experience

### **Sitewide Graphics Designer at GameReplays.org (October 2014 - October 2017)**

I first joined as a Junior Graphics Designer and over the three years I worked there I got promoted to Sitewide Designer - with this I was made responsible for the management of design staff and the aesthetic of the site. I also edited 24 news articles using Adobe InDesign and created hundreds of high-quality web safe images for the website using the industry standard Adobe Illustrator and Sketch. This developed my skills in organisation, active listening, flexibility and leadership.

### **Graphics Design Freelancer (October 2014 - ongoing)**

I am responsible for the promotion of my work while working with clients on varying projects including branding for Ice Crème shops to marketing Server Hosting companies. I've built a wide array of contacts with job sources and have a successful and fruitful freelancing record. With this, my communications skills increased dramatically, my ability to manage and work well with the client through strong team skills has been extremely important to my success.

### **Part time Kitchen Staff (Bentra-Grill restaurant) (August 2017 – August 2019)**

My responsibilities entailed helping train new staff within my role, cleaning and maintenance of all equipment and bringing interesting discussions to even the most arduous of work days. Being patient and flexible, while working in a high paced environment helped me thrive during late night shifts and enabled me to get stuck into the action with enthusiasm!

### **Covid-19 Volunteer at Mid-East Antrim Borough Council (April 2020 - June 2020)**

I helped support a vital and essential service during the peak of the Pandemic by helping the council clean and maintain the town of Larne and the surrounding borough, whilst helping those at risk and the vulnerable. Doing my part for the community during this time was extremely gratifying and an excellent learning experience. Knowing that being young and healthy I could take a risk, and have it mean so much for so many, shows my ability to prioritise, focus, and be ambitious to the benefit of everyone.

## **Work Experience**

### **Work Placement, Northern Ireland Civil Service, Print and Media Designer (August 2019 - August 2020)**

As part of my University Degree, I joined the Northern Ireland Civil Service, during this Work Placement I learnt much more about how to work better with clients, showing my problem solving clearly and understanding the solution to my problem. I mainly used InDesign, Premiere, Photoshop and Adobe XD during this time.

Communicating well, helped me achieve highly positive feedback which highlighted my excellent delivery of the product, my ability to overcome complex problems and how the product I made delivers for the community of Northern Ireland. My creativity, team-work and leadership skills were honed in and perfected within this role, being in charge of so many responsibilities and having excellent time keeping meant I was able to train myself to be a reliable member of the organisation, with consistently positive feedback.

## **Education**

### **Interactive Media BTEC Level 3, Extended Diploma**

Northern Regional College

September 2015 to June 2017

Distinction\*, Distinction\*, Distinction

### **Interaction Design, Bachelor of Design with Honours**

Ulster University, Belfast

September 2017, (ongoing)

First Class Honours in all completed modules

## **Awards and Certificates**

Awarded as the "Most Industry Ready Student", by Northern Regional College for every year I attended this course, during the final Creative Industry Awards at the end of 2017. This was on behalf of the entire Interactive Design and 3D Modelling department at the College.

Placed on Ulster Universities Dean's List for all my years at the University, for outstanding achievement and personal excellence. To earn this certificate, I achieved a consistent First-Class Honours grade in every module I have undertaken.

Certificate of recognition and appreciation from Mayor Councillor Peter Johnston for my work during the Covid-19 Pandemic to help the most vulnerable in society when they needed it most. This certificate was given on behalf of the people of Mid-East Antrim and the local government.

Certificate of Recognition from the Northern Ireland Civil Service for having exemplary conduct during my placement within my role.

## **Interests**

Ju-Jitsu on a weekly basis, with the gratifying achievement of Black Belt, first Dan. This is a proud achievement that took years of determined training to accomplish and required distinguished teamwork with my fellow training partners for which I've been commended for by several leading Sensei's.

Attending creative conferences, such as Pixel Pioneers and Belfast Design Week. Most importantly mingling with the experts and asking lots of questions, I am always keen to improve myself and others wherever I can.

## **References**

Available upon request.