

Language Ambassadors

Profile



CLARE FORDER

Occupation: Project Manager

Company: Routes into Languages South, University of Brighton

Degree/University: BA (Hons) French and German with European Studies, University of Sussex; MA Applied Translation, London Metropolitan University

Languages spoken (native and learned): English (native), French (fluent), German (fluent), along with basic Italian, a little bit of Dutch and I'm learning Latvian.

“Why wouldn't you want to learn a language when doing so can bring you so many things? Not only do you improve and perfect listening, reading and writing skills which are always useful, but you get to travel, spend time in other countries, make friends from all over the world, earn more money – the list is endless!”

Web:
www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/south

Email:
ambassadors@soton.ac.uk

“I have always been fascinated by other languages and took them for GCSE and A Level. I really wanted to carry them on at university, especially when I discovered that doing a languages degree meant you could study for a year in another country. That really appealed to me as I was keen to not only improve my language skills but also experience a different culture and new way of life.

“After graduating I worked for American Express and got the job purely because of my language skills. I also found out that I would be paid more as a result. I worked there for five years and used languages every day. I even got sent to Switzerland to train some colleagues as they could not speak English. This experience encouraged me to take my Master's degree in translation. As a freelance translator I got to work with many different clients and translated many different types of documents ranging from speeches by German ambassadors to promotional material for a well-known chain of gyms.

“Languages have certainly opened many doors for me and have given me lots of exciting opportunities and experiences.”