I wouldn't be where I am now if it wasn't for my four years at Myerscough College.



### Mysuccess

## From student to European Tour leaderboard Chris Hanson

I turned professional after gaining my Level 3 Diploma and Foundation Degree in Golf. I'm now competing at tournaments on the PGA European Tour and PGA Challenge Tour. I work hard on my game, the schedule can be tough and you need real dedication, but the rewards are worth it – I'm out there doing what I love! My 2011 season set the ball rolling, winning the PGA EuroPro Order of Merit, with victories in the Motocaddy Masters, the Northern Ireland Open and the Network Veka Classic at Mottram Hall - with a second round 63 and a fifteen under par 201 total, worth £10,000! Things have really taken off since then, with top ten finishes in 2015 at Challenge Tour events in Madrid and Copenhagen and then onto the European Tour Qualifying School, gaining the last card for the 2016 Race to Dubai!

This year has produced some strong performances, including a fantastic 5th place European Tour finish in the Trophée Hassan II, at Rabat in Morocco, worth €58,000 and, most recently 8th place at the KLM Dutch Open - worth another €42,000.





The international tournament work experience that we got whilst studying at Myerscough helped open the door to my career in golf.



#### Mysuccess

## From student to Tournament Director Michael Wood

I'm currently the Tournament Director and Technical Manager for the Ladies European Tour. It's a hugely challenging job but a hugely rewarding one too. I'm responsible for all the preevent tournament management; liaising with host venues, recruiting volunteers, undertaking health and safety assessments and marking the course to ensure the fair and strict applications of the Rules of Golf.

I manage the budget for each tournament and work closely with our live broadcasters to ensure that TV schedules are met. I'm then the Master of Ceremonies for the prize presentations and work closely with the relevant sponsors to maintain good relationships and ensure their commercial and PR targets are met.

After graduating from Myerscough I started out working at the PGA, as a Tournament Administrator before being promoted to Tournament Controller and then Tournament Director - for events on the PGA Europro Tour and PGA National Tournaments.

I've also refereed at the 2015 Solheim Cup in Germany, the 2016 U.S. Women's Open and was over in Rio for the Olympics as an athlete liaison officer for the women's golf competition.





The environment and atmosphere at Myerscough is amazing. I made a lot of friends and I continue to work with many of them to this day across a variety of golf projects.



### Mysuccess

# From student to player management Lloyd Bailey

My current role has three distinct project areas. Firstly I am a Sports Manager which means I manage the careers of golf professionals - including Ryder Cup players, World Golf Hall of Fame members, amateur champions, European Tour winners, Senior European Tour winners and former world number one amateurs. This includes everything from their scheduling, club contracts, sponsorship and accounting....so they can just concentrate on playing professional golf!

Secondly I manage the Farmfoods British Par 3 Championship which is now one of the largest professional golf events in the UK with a prize fund of more than €150,000. We organise a four day festival of golf including a two day Pro-Am and two Celeb-Am days. We organise sponsorship, the tented village, amateurs, celebrities and professional players as well as media with Sky Sports and Golf Monthly.

The final area refers to everything else golf-related within the business at Champions UK plc. Whether it be a corporate golf day for Tony Jacklin CBE, a media engagement, playing in an event or event management for golf events, it's a wide ranging a varied job and hard to put into a few paragraphs. You've got to be flexible!





The College Golf tour is a great way to improve your game and learn about the industry... even if I was voted worst golfer on tour three years on the trot!



### Mysuccess

#### From student to Tournament Administrator Orry Drinkwater

I only graduated two years ago but I'm already the Tournament Administrator for the Ladies European Tour. I have worked on more than 40 tour events in that time, from China to Colombia, and most notably the 2015 Solheim Cup.

A key area I'm involved in is the qualifying tournaments for the tour and then being the rookie liaison; helping brief new rookies on tour life, how to succeed on tour and how to comply with the myriad of regulations! Currently I'm based in the Sport Department which means I control all the entries for tournaments and any breaches in regulations that might result in issuing fines.

At any given tournament my main role is managing the live scoring operation - working with volunteers and liaising with the television production companies for both live broadcasts and highlights programmes. I am currently negotiating our worldwide mobile phone service and office systems upgrade and pursuing new partners and funding for the tour.

My tips to future students...work hard, always smile and be positive as golf isn't a normal 9-5 job - especially working with professional athletes on a worldwide golf tour. Be prepared to do and learn new things every day!





At Myerscough there's a good mix of theory and practical sessions and it gave me the opportunity to improve as a player whilst studying the game I love.



#### Mysuccess

## From student to Head of Sponsorship Ross Parker

My BA in Golf Management has enabled me to secure a role as Head of Sponsorship at The Professional Golfers' Association, a role I've held since 2012.

My current role involves sourcing, negotiating and completing commercial deals as well as overall responsibility of the Association's commercial department, including producing proposals for new business opportunities, preparing contracts, liaison with tournament officials and management, managing existing sponsorship relationships and budgeting and invoicing, among my duties in a varied and challenging role.

After graduation I caddied full time on The European Tour until I started at PGA National Headquarters as a Tournament Administrator in December 2007. I held that position for two years and then went on to become Sponsorship Executive, a post which I held until December 2012 where I was then promoted to my current post.

At Myerscough there's a good mix of theory and practical sessions and it gave me the opportunity to improve as a player whilst studying the game I love. A lot of the tutors had also studied there so they understood what it was like for a young person to be growing up in that environment. Myerscough taught me how to grow up and look after myself, especially when living on campus. There was always plenty going on socially and it's important to have a good mix of both.

The advice I always provide to anyone starting out in the industry is to make sure that in the early days of employment, to stick at it and work hard. Go out there and put yourself about. Don't be afraid to introduce yourself to people, you never know who you will meet.





Without the dedicated support of all the staff over the years so many people wouldn't be in the positions they are in now within the Global Golf Industry.



### Mysuccess

#### From student to European Tour Administrator Andrew Snoddy

My current role involves refereeing on the European Tour, Challenge Tour and Senior Tour. This includes dealing with course set up, rules and refereeing and the day to day running of Professional Golf Tournaments.

My degree qualification has opened the door for me to work closely with the PGA for a number of years at their nation al headquarters, with highlights including officiating at the 2014 USPGA and Ryder Cup and the 2015 USPGA and Open Championship.

At Myerscough there's a wide variety of course content and you the chance to work in the field not just the class room. You also get the opportunities to travel, play golf and enjoy great work experience. Everything is well run and without the dedicated support of all the staff over the years so many people wouldn't be in the positions they are in now within the Global Golf Industry.

I would never have thought I would be in the role I am in now when I graduated.





Myerscough gives a nice warm welcome to everybody and it's definitely a special place to study at.



### Mysuccess

## From student to overseas PGA Professional Trainee Torel Neider

I'm currently the PGA Professional Trainee at the Estonian Golf School, a position I obtained following the completion of my Golf Management Foundation Degree.

I work mainly setting up junior golfing programmes, teaching golf from beginners to club level golfers and also work part time for the Estonian Golf Association as a Championship Committee member.

Myerscough gave me a great variety of golf related studies, different guest lectures, trips to industry related places, and working on the European Tour at events such as Dunhill Links and the British Masters.

Myerscough gives a nice warm welcome to everybody and it's definitely a special place to study at. If you want to make it in the golf industry then Myerscough golf studies are the place to start from. It can lead to whichever place you want to get to.





Learning the Rules of Golf is critical if you wish to progress within golf administration and by being R&A Rules Qualified, this has opened up many opportunities for me.



#### Mysuccess

## From student to R&A Assistant Director **Ed Johnson**

I'm the Assistant Director for Amateur Events & Open Qualifying at The R&A at St Andrews. I am part of a small team responsible for the overall administration, logistics, planning and rules for the suite of R&A Amateur Events, International Matches and Open Championship Regional, Final and Open Qualifying Series Events. I am also part of a team responsible for the course set up and rules of golf at various amateur events around the world.

Earlier in my career I was a PGA Tournament Administrator, before I became R&A Rules Qualified which allowed me to become a Referee and be promoted to a Tournament Controller and then Tournament Director. I was also invited to referee at various European Tour, Challenge Tour and Seniors Tour events.

There are many opportunities in the golf industry outside of being a player so don't get too downbeat and caught up on playing. I quickly realised when seeing the high standard of the UCLAN Golf teams that playing was never going to be a feasible career path for me so the best option for me was to be on the 'other side of the fence' and actually organise and run these events.

Working in golf administration is difficult in terms of very long and anti-social hours and being away from home a lot. However, the opportunities are vast throughout the World and if you work hard and knuckle down, it can reward very well.

Learning the Rules of Golf is critical if you wish to progress within golf administration and by being R&A Rules Qualified, this has opened up many opportunities for me.





Myerscough provided me with expert knowledge and assistance from tutors as well as fantastic teaching and playing facilities.



### Mysuccess

## From student to Greek PGA Professional Adam Kritikos

Following the completion of my degree I completed my compulsory 9-month national army service in Cyprus. Following my discharge from the Greek Army, I was approached by Costa Navarino to take up the role of Assistant PGA professional. During my time as assistant PGA professional, I founded and developed the 'Navarino Junior Golf Academy' - a talent development program, with the goal of developing the game of golf in the local area.

My current role as PGA professional at Costa Navarino involves teaching as well as operational and tournament organisation roles. In 2015 I was elected onto the board of the PGA of Greece - with the role of Captain - to develop the professional game in Greece through educational and tournament activities. Throughout I've worked hard on my competitive tournament profile, with countless appearances in tournaments through the PGA of Greece, the Mena Tour, Pro golf tour and European Challenge tour.

Myerscough provided me with expert knowledge and assistance from tutors as well as fantastic teaching and playing facilities. Being at a place such as Myescough, where golf is at the centre of the training program is a great experience and one which personally set the foundations for where I am today.





Work hard and don't be afraid to travel, learn new things, learn other languages, and certainly don't be scared to take risks.



### Mysuccess

#### From student to club manager **Lea Salmon**

I got a full time job in the industry soon after graduating and currently manage Torcy Golf Club. I am in charge of the club house, events, communication, bar and catering of the golf, while supervising other employees. It's a demanding role creating schedules, handling human resources issues, coordinating events as well responsibility for marketing and communication.

I found Myerscough to be a great campus to study at and the lectures were complete and diverse. All the tutors are amazingly helpful, nice, and very bright. I particularly enjoyed the Event Management module of my degree.

My top tip is to take every job opportunity you can while studying as it makes a big difference on your CV. Work hard and don't be afraid to travel, learn new things, learn other languages, and certainly don't be scared to take risks. Make sure you get yourself out there.





I work on a number of major tournaments including Solheim Cup ensuring the Player Services are delivered to a consistently high level.



### Mysuccess

# From student to Ladies European Tour Co-ordinator Claire Fry

After graduating I worked in TV production for a few years, being a production assistant and camera analyst at events including The British Open. I still do TV work but my current main role is as an Event Co-ordinator at the Ladies European Tour. I work on a number of major tournaments including Solheim Cup in a varied role including assisting with the planning, preparation and management for all LET sanctioned events, ensuring the Player Services are delivered to a consistently high level.

I also support the Commercial Manager in the delivery of a sponsorship service plan for Tour sponsors and contribute to the preparation and management of all documentation within the department including the creation of detailed event manuals and professional post event reports, as well as travel visa assistance and a range of logistics essential to the smooth operation of the LET.

Experience is key to success in this industry, so make ensure you take every opportunity available to gain valuable work experience over your years at Myerscough.





I would recommend any golf study programme at Myerscough, the tutors are the best and I will never forget them!



### Mysuccess

From student to LETAS Membership & Event Co-ordinator

#### **Melissa Eccles**

My big break initially came when I secured a placement with the PGA while I was still studying. The skills I learned I've been able to carry forward into my current role at the Ladies European Tour Access Series.

I work alongside the Tour Director liaising with golf federations, press, staff and promoters around Europe. A majority of my time is spent making sure the membership have all the information needed to prepare for tournaments, ensuring they run smoothly.

I also spend a lot of time working at tournaments. There are 15 in the LET access series. I'm there for the player's needs, and I also update social media, make sure the tournament director has everything in place for the tournament and general tournament administration.

I spent six years at Myerscough and it was one of the best experiences I could have chosen. You really feel like part of a family within the golf department and nothing is too much to ask. I would recommend any golf study programme at Myerscough, it will provide you with so many skills and you will create many friendships.

The tutors are the best and I will never forget them!





If you stay focused, then you'll have no issues in achieving your goals within the golf industry.



#### Mysuccess

# From student to Director of Golf in Bahrain **Philip Waine**

I've been in the industry for more than a decade now and the Director of Golf role is accountable for all golf operations at the Royal Golf Club. This includes golf academy & tuition, tournaments and events, golf operation service standards, golf membership and retail. Another important part of the role is to develop associates and grow their careers within golf and ensure they are ready for the next career opportunity that presents itself.

My previous roles saw me take a graduate position for Crown Golf at Eccleston Park Golf Club in Merseyside, before a move to the Marriott Forest of Arden to undertake the role of Golf Co-ordinator.

I then moved overseas, firstly to the Middle East to work at Abu Dhabi Golf Club as the Tournament Coordinator and then Golf Operations Manager, setting up the golf internship program between Abu Dhabi Golf Club and Myerscough College, before making the switch to the Royal Golf Club in Bahrain to become the Director of Golf.

Myerscough provided me with so much experience and so many great memories with some highlights including working on European Tour events and qualifying for the Prospect Tour Final in Portugal.

Make sure you know the ladder within golf that you want to climb and how you are going to achieve your long term career aspirations. Be prepared to start at the bottom and not just chase the big salary from the start. I always wanted to work within golf operations and become a DOG and I took this path straight after graduation. If you stay focused, apply your skills, are prepared to re-locate and remain patient then you'll have no issues in achieving your goals within the golf industry.





It is not easy to enter the golf industry so make sure that you stand out from the crowd.



### Mysuccess

#### From student to German golf club manager Amélie Bernsdorf

After my degree in Golf Management I achieved a Masters in Sport Management, helping me to my current role as manager of the Stahlberg Golf Club in Lippetal, Germany. My duties include administration of memberships, membership accounts and customer care, supervising of all business operations, greenkeeping, accounts, finances, marketing and HR, working closely with the golf club, administrating golf course usage, organisation and execution of all golfing events and business development and planning. I have worked for other clubs in Germany and also on Ladies European Tour as an Event Co-ordinator.

The hands-on experience of working on the European Tour while studying was fantastic and the friendly and well educated staff and great facilities meant it was a great experience to study, live and work at Myerscough.

It is not easy to enter the golf industry as it is a very popular occupation, so make sure that you stand out from the crowd by completing your degree and enhancing your knowledge of the industry.





Hard work will ensure you climb the ladder quicker than you think.



### Mysuccess

## From student to International golf account manager **Phil Davies**

I am account manager for a specialist corporate golf agency, providing consultancy, management and event support for corporate golf days in the UK and Europe. I have three key clients - American Golf, Coca-Cola and the London Stock Exchange. All accounts are significantly different with AG aiming to promote the game involving 40 events throughout the year and Coca-Cola a high end corporate event entertaining their key clients. The LSE event is an employee reward event.

My AG role involves liaising with governing bodies (England Golf, Welsh Golf Union, Irish Golf Union and Scottish Golf Union), Sky Sports, various manufacturers and many venues throughout the UK and Ireland to promote a number of different forms of golf aimed at 'growing the game'. I also assist colleagues on other accounts including BMW, Mercedes, Porsche, Bentley, RSMUK, Iceland Foods, Hewlett Packard and BBC World Service.

I was new to golf when I started at Myerscough but it was great to meet so many like-minded people who were keen to make a living in the industry, it is great to look back on the year group we had and see so many people doing well.

Networking is key. Don't just apply for jobs that you see coming available. Instead send your CV, request meetings with key people in the industry to put your case face to face. These contacts will prove valuable when jobs do come up in the future.

Don't be afraid to get into an organisation at a very low level (or even volunteer initially) if you see them as one that will be good for you. Hard work will ensure you climb the ladder quicker than you think.





The lecturers at Myerscough have a wealth of knowledge and contacts. I can honestly say I wouldn't be where I am, having done the things I have without their help.



### Mysuccess

## From student to PR Executive **Dan Southam**

I'm a PR Executive for TaylorMade-Adidas Golf. I work with the PR Manager to create, manage, execute and evaluate all pan–European PR activities and events for all brands. It's such a diverse role that includes implementing sound media relations strategies; developing key relationships with vertical golf titles, relevant lifestyle media and sports press, maintaining relationships with key social influencers and distributing press releases to targeted media which involves researching and writing the material and collaborating with departments to compile messaging documents; monitoring; internal communications; and providing support with the planning and execution of press conferences, media briefings, consumer experiences and internal events.

While at Myerscough, I always have great memories from the Dunhill Links Championship weeks, meeting players out in bars and getting to talk to them outside of their usual environment. Along with the Dunhill, working at the 2010 Ryder Cup at Celtic Manor was a massive highlight. The atmosphere was incredible and to have that work placement on my CV is a great asset.

Sample as many areas of the industry as you can and don't be afraid to travel. Most of all make as many contacts as possible. In the UK the golf industry is actually a fairly small place when you talk to people, everybody knows everybody which is great when learning the ropes. They'll also be helpful when looking for a career!

The lecturers at Myerscough have a wealth of knowledge and contacts. I can honestly say I wouldn't be where I am, having done the things I have without their help.





The insight, knowledge and opportunities that the team provided both inside and outside the lecture rooms was invaluable.



#### Mysuccess

## From student to Assistant Gold Operations Manager **Brian Duncan**

I'm Assistant Golf Operations Manager at The Celtic Manor Resort and have been in the industry for more than a decade. In this position, my overall responsibility is to ensure all aspects of the golf operations department run effectively. The Celtic Manor's strategy within golf is to deliver a 5 star experience to all of our members and guests over four golf courses and a golf academy, delivering approximately 150,000 rounds of golf per year and to develop our staff. My day to day role is to ensure all team members are briefed on the daily activities around both the department and resort. To oversee the golf operation ensuring the level of service offered exceeds the expectations of all guests in all areas and to provide ongoing feedback to the team related to their performance.

Within my time at The Celtic Manor Resort, I have had an active involvement with a number of events working as part of the team delivering the 2010 Ryder Cup and NATO conference, working with the European Tour at 9 Wales Opens, 2 Senior Wales Open and a Euro pro event and have been a member of the planning team involved with The Celebrity Cup.

Whilst at Myerscough, I met some fantastic people who I still see and keep in contact with whether it be socially or professionally. The insight, knowledge and opportunities that the team provided both inside and outside the lecture rooms was invaluable. Other great times include working at the Dunhill Links and Mallorca Classic events.

The biggest piece of advice I could offer is to take full advantage of all opportunities that are presented to you and to be prepared to work hard. The golf industry is a network full of opportunity provided you have the correct approach.





Whilst studying I got to work at so many different events which provided great experience and this stood me in good stead for my working life!



### Mysuccess

# From student to Director of Golf **John Pilkington**

My current role as Director of Golf at the Macdonald Hill Valley, Hotel, Golf & Spa involves managing four main areas, golf shop, group and residential golf, membership and financing. It is my responsibility to plan and, producing spreadsheets and figures, budgeting, forecasting, payroll, sales and profit. It is my job to ensure that the golf department is successful and profitable at the hotel.

Earlier in my career I undertook a 12 month internship through The Ohio State University. I worked at Robert Trent Jones Golf Club, Virginia and Thornblade Club in South Carolina. On my return to the UK, I started working for De Vere Hotels at Oulton Hall, working my way up to Golf Sales Manager, before moving onto my current post.

Whilst studying I got to work at so many different events which provided great experience. They involved very early starts and 16 hour working days and this stood me in good stead for my working life! My advice is make the most out of any opportunity that presents itself. Make sure that you put every effort in to achieving your career goals.



