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Andy Windsor, Applied Golf Management Studies 2005

'It gave me the opportunity to complete my P.G.A. training whilst studying at University which were the two things that I really wanted to do and it is the only degree course in the world that offers that.'

Andy Windsor

Current role

P.G.A. Assistant Golf Professional at Ferndown Golf Club.

2011 Alps Tour golf professional

Career experiences

Since I graduated from the AGMS degree course I have spent four years competing full time as an amateur at county, regional, national and international level, funding my golf by working 6 month temporary contract's for J.P.Morgan ChaseBank during the off season.

In October 2010 I took up the vocation I had trained for as part of the AGMS degree course and became assistant golf professional at Ferndown Golf Club in Bournemouth, where I had been a member for 10 years. Still having the ambition to play golf professionally I invested the last of my savings into the Alps Tour Qualifying School 2010 and flew out to Italy in November to try and qualify for the 2011 season. Happily I had a good 10 days there and gained one of the 35 Tour cards available and am currently fulfilling my duties as assistant professional at Ferndown Golf Club whilst preparing for a full season on the 2011 Alps Tour.

What is the best thing about what you are doing now?

The best thing about what I am doing currently is, as an assistant professional I get to serve the club I was a member at helping the members to improve and enjoy their golf. Also, having qualified for the 2011 Alps Tour I get to do what I've always dreamed of and travel around Europe competing on a professional golf tour.

What was the best thing about your time as an AGMS student?

The best part of being an AGMS student was the access to the superb facilities of Birmingham University, the P.G.A. and the chance to study under lecturers who are experts in their fields. I was also very fortunate to be able to gain a sports scholarship giving me access to sports coaching, strength and fitness conditioning, nutrition and sports psychology coaching which allowed me to improve as a player in a way that I wouldn't have been able to if I hadn't been at Univeristy at the time.

How did you grow as a person by coming to University? Did it change your life in any way?

University certainly enabled me to grow and develop as a person meeting a wide range of different people helped to broaden my perspective on alot of things. Everyone is in the same situation, thrown together in a new and different environment and it teaches you valuable life skills. I made alot of really good friends at University too, some of my best friends are the people I met at University.

The AGMS degree course changed my life dramatically actually, I was intending to study Sports Science at Exeter University until my Gran saw a article in the paper about the AGMS course and I changed my UCAS entry and got a place on the first year of the degree. It gave me the opportunity to complete my P.G.A. training whilst studying at University which were the two things that I really wanted to do and it is the only degree course in the world that offers that.

What were your expectations and experiences of Birmingham?

I loved living in Birmingham! It far exceeded my expectations there is so much to see and do there, four Premiere League football clubs, Edgbaston cricket ground, The Belfry, Little Aston & Edgbaston Golf Club's, The Bullring, plus the nightlife there is incredible! The University itself exceeded my expectations too, a fantastic campus with excellent facilities.

Advice for current students

My advice to any prospective and current students would be to work hard and take advantage of all of the opportunities available to them through the AGMS degree course to achieve anything they really want in almost any area of the golf industry anywhere in the world! You just cant get that opportunity anywhere else.

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