**Curriculum Vitae**

**Helen Rebecca Selby**

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# Personal Profile

I studied English Literature at the University of Hull and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree with honours in the second class (division one).

Studying English has always been a passion of mine, so to have the opportunity to teach it as a foreign language is something I would value greatly. I would find teaching incredibly fulfilling and I hope someday to have built a career within it. The chance to live in a different country and experience a foreign culture would also be incredibly enriching.

**University Education**

BA English Hull University September 2007 – June 2010

Grade: 2:1 Hons

During my degree I have mainly enjoyed studying contemporary fiction and poetry. I particularly enjoy fiction by the Canadian writer Margaret Atwood, on whom one of my assessed essays was focussed on. I have also recently studied a module which centres on the 1960s and the ‘cultural revolution’ in Britain. I have enjoyed this module as I have always been interested in the music and pop culture of the 1960s. However, I also enjoy studying and reading Shakespeare, in my spare time as well as at university. My degree includes a lot of historical context that I feel would interest students who are eager to learn about England. I have studied an array of subjects within the field of English Literature; including Renaissance literature, classic literature, modernist literature, contemporary poetry, gothic Victorian literature, contemporary fiction, courtly medieval fiction and medieval drama and language. I have also studied modules in film music, the Vikings and 20th Century history.

# Previous Education and Qualifications

2004-2006 Wilberforce College, Hull. A level Qualifications:

 Media Studies (A), Film Studies (A), English Literature (B)

2000-2005 Andrew Marvell Secondary School, Hull. GCSE Qualifications:

English Language (A\*), English Literature (A), History (A), French (A), Food Technology (A), Media Studies (A), Mathematics (B), Music (B) and Triple Award Science (CCC)

**Recent Employment History**

**September 2008-Current**

**The Haworth Arms Public House Bartender**

I have a part-time job in a local public house to support myself financially during my time at university. I enjoy the large extent of customer contact that the job involves and consider myself a very friendly, approachable bar maid. The responsibilities included in my role are upkeep of displays, cash-handling, food service and replenishing stock. My job requires me to communicate well with my colleagues and the ability to perform well under pressure, as I often have to work a very busy bar alone.

**June 2008 – September 2008**

**Shell Petrol Station Shop Assistant**

This job was very challenging as it came with much responsibility. I was left alone in the petrol station for the entirety of my shift, which meant that I was responsible for the welfare of the entire site. I had to open and close my own till, serve customers, replenish stock, check legal temperature requirements on fridges, tidy and assist any customers who needed help on the forecourt.

**Autumn 2006- Summer 2008**

**Outfit Shop Assistant**

Outfit is a popular fashion store which sells clothes and jewellery from Arcadia brands including *Top Shop* and *Dorothy Perkins*. I enjoyed working at Outfit as I often worked on the cash desk which involved constant customer contact. I had to work very fast when the shop was busy during peak times such as Saturday afternoons. As well as working on the cash desk, I assisted on the fitting rooms, tidied and maintained my own area of the store in terms of stock regeneration and customer assistance. I also often helped the management to both open and cash up the tills.

I have also worked as a shop assistant for Crombie, Mexx, a local Post Office and Primark. My first job at the age of sixteen was as a waitress in a local café.

# Interests and Activities

My passion aside from literature is music. I have played the violin since the age of eight and up until last year I performed in the City of Hull Youth Orchestra in the position of second violin. I left the orchestra in order to focus on my studies for the final stages of my degree, and I miss the weekly practises and concert performances very much. I performed with the orchestra in four concerts per year in our city’s town hall, and the quality of the orchestra’s performance was always outstanding. In the summer of 2008 I toured Vienna with the orchestra which was an incredible experience. A song which will forever remind me of the tour is Johann Strauss’ *Radetzky March,* which was the finale to each concert. I also performed in school orchestras for nine years of my school life in the positions of pianist and first violin, as well as my college orchestra for two years in the position of first violin.

As well as being classically trained to play the violin, I have taught myself to play the guitar and ukulele, and some basic piano. Recently I have started writing songs and practising singing. I have performed duets in concerts on violin, guitar and piano and assisted younger players with their violin skills during my final years of school. I now enjoy playing music as a leisure activity; I particularly enjoy playing old English folk music on my violin and as previously mentioned, writing my own songs for guitar and ukulele.

Another interest of mine is figure skating; I like to visit the local ice arena when I have some spare time. During childhood I underwent figure skating lessons, from which I eventually achieved a Grade 10 level. I also entered competitions and taught some friends to skate.

During my spare time I enjoy visiting the cinema, as I have a keen interest in film. Some of my modules at university include studies of films, and I studied film intensely at college. During my time at college I also made some short films and music videos. I have my own camcorder for personal use and often enjoy editing short pieces for fun when I have the time.

I also enjoy travelling, and hope to gain more experience in this area in the years following my graduation. I have travelled to America, Spain, Italy, Austria, Belgium, France, Holland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland and Finland. I highly anticipate visiting Asia, and hope one day to travel to Australia and New Zealand.

**References**

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