The Department of Computer Science

Daniel Flower

"It seems I was born with an interest in computers and programming. Before studying, I worked as a web developer in London for two years, but I saw that to get the better, more interesting, higher paying jobs, I would need a degree.

I took Computer Science at the University of Auckland because the variety of courses was excellent - from datamining to 3D graphics to artificial intelligence. Learning fundamental aspects of computer science, such as the maths behind it, and learning how to write computer languages, has been invaluable and very useful in my current work.

I am a Senior Developer for the Royal Bank of Scotland in London. I programme on a low-latency, complex financial system that processes hundreds of billions of dollars worth of trades a day. Because the system must be fast and always available, careful design and development is required. It is a real challenge, and quality is demanded.

I have also launched an online software company, www.DotNetHelpers.com, and I'm working on a social networking website with one of my old classmates from university.

Skilled programmers will always be in high demand, and with a little experience, you can work almost anywhere in the world that you want. There are a wide variety of jobs available, from complex financial systems, to internet start-ups, or cutting-edge research. I've already worked in Auckland and London, and look forward to working in Asia in the near future, and at some point I hope to continue research on artificial intelligence projects that I started while studying at Auckland."

Daniel graduated with a first class Honours degree in Computer Science in 2006. In his time at the University of Auckland, he was awarded the Faculty of Science Study Award, the Senior Scholarship in Computer Science, and second prize in the Orion Poster Competition.