

Enterprise Placement Year

So, you're thinking about doing Enterprise Placement Year (or EPY for short).

You've done a bit of research and you can't decide whether to rise to the challenge and you're wondering if it's even for you.

OR - truthfully - you don't even know what it is.

This blog is here to tell you a little about Enterprise Placement Year, but it will focus more on what you can expect. We even sat down and had a chat with one of our current EPY students to get their insights!

To explain, Enterprise Placement Year is a ten month alternative placement year for undergraduates at the University. It differs from a traditional placement because you work closely with the Enterprise Team exploring, research, planning, and developing your own business. You're definitely not doing that in any other placement!

It's no doubt a challenging year for students. Developing your own business is no easy task, but with the challenges come the monumental rewards where you are able to reinvent yourself and gain extremely useful transferable skills that will last you a life time. However... We realise that we are probably biased in our views on doing Enterprise Placement Year, so we sat down with Amanda, one of our current EPY students to talk about her experiences of EPY so far.

Amanda Jane Lead is currently studying BA (Hons) Textile Practice specialising in Craft & Art with embroidery and is the founder of Perpetuity, which focuses on textile crafts and illustration to create memory custodians. Amanda spoke about how she has really enjoyed EPY so far; "**I have got a lot out of EPY. I had three main goals when I came onto the programme. My first goal was to learn how pitch and present. The second one was learning how to research, and the final goal was to know where to find market research and how to do it. I think I've achieved all these goals during my time on EPY".**

When it came to challenges, Amanda spoke about how the structure of EPY is somewhat different to what she is used to at university. Instead of having monthly deadlines, she said that EPY sets you main goals and objectives that you need to reach by the end of your placement. Because of this, Amanda wasn't used to having to work on something long term in order to achieve the goals. She was well accustomed to university life, where you work hard on an assignment and get your results back within three weeks, therefore, finding that consistent motivation was a bit of a struggle for Amanda whilst she learnt to adapt.

When asking Amanda if she has any advice for students debating whether or not to do EPY, she simply said "**Just do it and don't overthink it.**" Short and sweet!

You can find out more about EPY [here](#) and see Amanda's [Instagram page](#)