



About Fera

[Fera Science Ltd](#) is part of Capita plc, the UK's leading provider of business process management and integrated professional support service solutions, across the UK, Europe, South Africa and India.

Fera Science Ltd specialises in translating scientific knowledge into practical applications, such as helping to ensure food safety and quality 'from farm to fork', sustainable crop production, environmental management and conservation. It also plays a key role in the UK's ability to respond to, and recover from, emergency situations affecting the food chain and rural economy. Our overarching purpose is to support and develop a sustainable food chain, a healthy natural environment, and to protect the global community from biological and chemical risks.

Based on the state of art National Agri-Food Innovation Campus near York, we are looking for a year in industry student, starting in July 2018, to support our Statistics team. The team provides statistical expertise and input across all the scientific work done at Fera.

In 2018, it is likely that this role will focus on looking at the statistical methods and models currently used in some areas of work, improving them where this is needed, and updating the tools that are currently used. This is a responsive team; the role can change and develop to meet both Fera's needs and the student's developing skills.

Post details

Job title: Year in Industry

Salary: £18,000pa

Closing date: Thursday 29th March 2018

Status: 40-week Fixed Term Appointment

Location: Sand Hutton, York

Description of Role

- Provide an undergraduate interested in a career in applied mathematics and statistics, the opportunity to come into an established team to help with the day to day running of the business from a broad multi-disciplinary perspective. The undergraduate will also gain industry experience of what is it like to work in an applied mathematics and statistics function.
- Training will be provided to ensure all tasks can be completed, but the experience listed below would benefit the successful applicant:
 - Knowledge of some aspects of environmental or food safety laboratory testing.
 - Knowledge of horticultural/agricultural practices and risks.
 - Experience of writing high quality scientific reports and papers.
 - Strong communication skills, with non-mathematicians.

Required skills

- Experience of programming in R.
- A basic understanding of statistical modelling.
- Basic programming skills.
- Experience in data management.
- Good communication skills.
- A structured, accurate and logical approach to identifying, piecing together and interpreting relevant information from a wide-range of sources.
- Practical IT experience Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Benefits for Student

- Industry experience of applying mathematics and statistics in interdisciplinary teams.
- Exposure and training on a range of mathematics and statistics techniques.
- Greater understanding of the importance and power of mathematics and statistics, within a wide range of scientific specialisms.
- Experience of working as part of a larger team with common goals and objectives.
- Interactions with key stakeholders of the business.

Benefits of working for Fera



Situated just outside of the beautiful city of York, Fera staff enjoy a purpose-built facility with state of the art facilities, a 41-place nursery, onsite gym, staff restaurant and parking.

The site is just 7 miles from the historic city centre with its excellent transport links and varied attractions, and within easy commuting distance of the many thriving Yorkshire towns and villages that are situated around the city.

How to Apply:

Apply by email to Roy Macarthur (Roy.Macarthur@fera.co.uk) and Bashir Surfraz (Bashir.Surfraz@fera.co.uk), providing your current CV with a covering letter describing your interest in this placement.

Competency based interviews will be held at Fera within 6 weeks of the closing date.

Capita operates as an equal opportunities employer and we welcome all applications regardless of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, pregnancy, race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality, religion or beliefs, disability, age, political opinions or trade union membership.

Competency Profile

The Capita Competency Framework outlines eight competencies. Below are competencies and some behaviours and skills of particular importance to the role.

Student Placement, Competency Profile	
Customer Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes personal pride in providing quality service to customers (either internal or external) to achieve targets.• Follows all business processes, policies and systems to deliver agreed customer service levels.
Results Focused	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reports any issues that may impact on progress and performance to their team leader.• Carries out their work effectively so individual and team targets are met.• Is flexible, coping well with unpredicted changes to get the job done.
Commercial Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thinks through costs and benefits of actions before taking them.• Relays information upwards that may impact the business.
Performance Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes ownership and responsibility for their personal performance targets.• Takes ownership of their personal development.• Reflects on own performance and learns from their mistakes, seeing these as an opportunity to improve performance in the future.
Team Working	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is aware how their own performance impacts on the performance of the team.• Makes a positive contribution to the team and the business as a whole.• Builds rapport quickly with colleagues, so contributing to a positive team spirit.