



Experience with digital  
literacies

Rachel Glover

# My placement

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- Politics and International Relations student
- Explore what research is
- Enhance my CV and employability
- Develop my digital and soft skills

# Digitally Ready Project

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- JISC funded initiative
- Better experience for UoR staff and students
- Live, work and study in a digital world

<http://blogs.reading.ac.uk/digitallyready>

# Digitally Ready & my research

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- Skills and experience that help students to become digitally literate
- Digital skills are embedded in general employability skills
- Interviews: academics, employers and students
- Extra-curricular: UROP, SEED
- In-curricular: year in industry, Real Jobs scheme, Silchester module

# Tangible outputs

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- Something to 'show' using digital technologies
- Career portfolio
- Harriet's experience



# What students most value

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- Immersed in the office environment
- Contact with co-workers - feedback
- Email etiquette
- A mismatch of values?



# What employers most value

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- Actively looking for skills in social media
- Use in professional or strategic way
- Carrie's experience
- My blog reporting



# Time to develop

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- Academics - placements are too short
- Students need time to develop and apply skills
- Positive contribution
- Lasting impact



# Promotion of opportunities

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- Skills rather than subject basis
- Skills needed
- Skills developed
- Increased applicants - more participation
- Helps students to value the placements
- My experience



# What I most value

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- Employers - positive online presence
- Students - showcase their development
- Academics - research skills, reporting, dissemination





Thank you - questions or comments