James Porter

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Personal Statement

I'm currently in my first year of a PhD in Economics and Complexity Science at the University of Warwick. Last year I completed an MSc in Complexity Science (with distinction). Prior to this I obtained an MRes in Mathematics in the Living Environment. My undergraduate degree was a joint Mathematics and Computer Science course. In short, I have a wide range of skills and experience in fields including Pure and Applied Mathematics, Theoretical Computer Science, Computer Programming, Ecology and Economics.

In addition to the above skills which I have gained through formal study, I have experience in Computer Graphics, Video Editing and Web Design.

Achievements

First (equal) in the NICCEA GCE A level Mathematics exam (Summer 2002).

Education

2008 -	(Ongoing) PhD in Economics and Complexity Science (with partial supervision from Computer Science). (Ongoing) Postgraduate Certificate in Transferable Skills in Science.
2007 - 2008	MSc in Complexity Science (with Distinction). Covered a wide range of topics
2006 - 2007	MRes in Mathematics in the Living Environment.
2002 - 2006	MMath Mathematics and Computer Science (85% average in Mathematics, First Class average in Computer Science, 87% in final year project).
1995 - 2002	Royal Belfast Academical Institution (4 A's at A-level).

Research Interests

The primary focus of my research in on Out-of-Equilibrium Economics, but this is rather broad and incorporates Economic Theory, Stochastic Dynamical Systems, Agent-Based Modeling/Agent-Based Computational Economics and Theoretical Computer Science among other disciplines. I am also interested in general Complexity Science questions.

Skills

- Experience in
    - Many programming languages, frameworks and methodologies including but not limited to: C, Java (and Eclipse), Ada 95, Python, Perl, Ruby, Prolog, Haskell, Scheme, Matlab, OpenGL.
    - Windows, Linux and Mac OS.
    - A wide range of software from standard office packages, to graphics, video and statistical analysis programs.
    - Web development (HTML, PHP, CSS, Flash)
- Full UK driving license. Have also driven minibuses.
- Have completed graduate skills courses at Warwick in Time Management, Debating and Public Speaking.
- Teaching (taught small groups of first year Mathematics students in core modules such as Linear Algebra and Analysis).

Interests

I play badminton regularly (and have been selected for a university team). I have done various martial arts, most recently Muay Thai. In the last year I've been practicing Yoga and have been involved in running the university society (my official roles have been Head of Ashtanga Vinyasa Yoga and now Marketing Officer). I also play squash and table tennis from time to time.