

Profile

Nikki is a Consultant based in the UK.

Nikki was awarded DITT in October 2024.

Qualifications

CTA

DITT

Nikki Richmond



Interview

Tell us about your current role, career so far and how did you first start working in tax?

I'm currently working as a tax mentor / coach / recruiter and trainer (as well as a side business in maths tutoring!).

My career to date has been predominantly in Big 4 spanning corporate, personal and more recently VAT and tax technology. I did also spend a year at Kaplan teaching ICAEW qualifications (and a revision course for ATT).

I started working in tax as an intern in Southwark Towers (now the Shard) in the corporate tax team which led to a graduate position.

What area of tax do you work in and how did the tax technology qualification help you in your day-to-day job?

Currently working as a mentor and coach so not involved in the practical side but do enjoy sharing knowledge on LinkedIn and through interactions with others who are still in practice. Hoping to use the knowledge to build out the training side of my business as I think it's an area which some people are scared of and would like some guidance with.

What motivated you to take this qualification?

I really enjoyed tax technology work but felt there were some gaps in my knowledge as I had learnt on the job. I really wanted to cement my understanding.

What are your observations on the syllabus, learning experience, assessment questions and touchpoint communications? What stood out in terms of learning and skills you developed from DITT?

I thought it was well structured and the distance nature suited me well. I did find some bits a little dry when it involved reading and understanding long pdfs but the structure helped me to write my own comprehensive notes.

The practice questions were perfect for consolidating my understanding (though would have liked a few more examples at the end of each pdf).

How did you manage studying and working at the same time?

I just blocked out the time and focussed almost entirely on studying so I could complete it in around 2 weeks.

Do you have any guidance on how best to approach the learning material?

Take the time to really understand it, practice talking about the concepts in your own words and try to put it in to practice in your work as soon as you can.

Which module did you enjoy the most and what were the most relevant to your current role?

The exploration of the different technologies and their application to the world of tax.

How do you think this programme will benefit the profession?

Upskilling in a relevant area – provides a great base level of understanding to build from. Helps professionals become ‘less scared’ of all the technology acronyms and concepts so they can feel comfortable talking about them in their own work, and to clients.

Would you recommend this programme to others?

Yes (although dependent on their circumstances).

What kept you motivated throughout the programme?

Gaining knowledge and having things ‘click’ into place.

Any words of wisdom to future candidates thinking of studying the DITT?

The more you put in, the more you get out. Make the most of the opportunity to learn.

