

Your name

Cristhian Zevallos

Your apprenticeship programme

BSc Digital and Technology Solutions
– Software Engineering Pathway

About you

My background is actually in the arts, specifically contemporary dance. I trained at a conservatoire for dance and drama, graduating in 2015. After a few years, I decided to change careers and moved into the IT field. I started as a data entry operator, then became a software tester, which sparked my interest in technology. Eventually, I became a QA Engineer, but my real goal was to become a software developer. When this apprenticeship opportunity came up, I knew it was the right path for me.



Why did you choose an apprenticeship?

I chose an apprenticeship because it was the perfect way for me to learn and grow in my career. While I had some experience in QA, I knew that to become a skilled software developer, I needed more practical experience and a better understanding of the theory behind it. The apprenticeship gave me a structured way to gain these skills while still working.

How has the apprenticeship enhanced your career?

The apprenticeship has had a big impact on my career. It helped me develop essential technical skills, especially in C#, Python, IT processes and Software Security. Since completing it, I have been promoted to Software Engineer and am now responsible for the test automation system at work. The soft skills I learned have also been very useful, especially in my role as a team lead, where I manage and work with others to improve and maintain the system.

What did your apprenticeship mean to you?

The apprenticeship was a key moment in my career. It allowed me to go from being a QA Engineer who wanted to be a developer to actually becoming one. The knowledge and skills I gained have not only helped me move forward in my career but also made me more confident in my abilities and contributions to my team and the company.

What advice would you give to an existing apprentice?

My advice to current apprentices is to fully commit to the experience. It can be challenging, but it's definitely worth it. You'll learn a lot, and the support from your coach, module tutors, and teammates is there to help you succeed. Take advantage of every opportunity to learn and grow because the skills you gain will open up many new possibilities in your career.