

JESSICA-CLAIRE LEIGH

*Gemmology Student, Psychology
Graduate, and Entrepreneur*

CONTACT



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Kenilworth, Cape Town

(Looking to relocate to Johannesburg)

EDUCATION

University

2021-2023

B.A. in Psychology with Distinction

2024

B.A. Honours in Psychology with Distinction

Gemmological Education

Gem-A – Foundation in Gemmology

2026

- Working towards the title of FGA qualified gemmologist, with the intention of progressing to the Gem-A Diploma in Gemmology.

The Gem Lab, Kenilworth, Cape Town

2026

- Certificates in Basic Gem Identification, Jewellery Valuation, and Practical Diamond Grading and Evaluation

SKILLS

- Gemmological Skills:** Foundational knowledge of gemmological testing and identification using the refractometer, dichroscope, polariscope, conoscope, chelsea colour filter, spectroscope, and microscope. Undersanding of optical properties and basic diamond grading principles.
- Additional Skills:** Strong attention to detail, analytical thinking, and methodical approach to technical work. Highly organised with the ability to learn new technical systems and equipment quickly. Strong communication and interpersonal skills, with experience working in professional and retail environments.

PROFILE

Gem-A Foundation student and aspiring FGA gemmologist with a strong passion for the scientific and analytical aspects of gemmology. I have hands-on experience with gemmological testing instruments and am eager to develop my technical skills and build a career in the field.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Temporary Sales Assistant and Gemmology Job Shadowing - Van Deijl Jewellers

2026 - Present

- Assisted customers and supported the sales team in a luxury jewellery environment.
- Gained practical exposure to gemstone and diamond handling, identification and evaluation.
- Observed and assisted with gemmological testing and laboratory procedures.
- Developed familiarity with high-value gemstones and fine jewellery, including diamonds and coloured gemstones.
- Maintained a high level of care and attention to detail when handling jewellery and gemstones.

Founder - Sayso (Pty) Ltd

2025 - Present

- Created and developed a digital platform focused on business discovery and user reviews
- Demonstrated initiative, problem-solving, and independent project execution

Founder - ChitChat AI

2025

- Developed psychology-based AI personas for chatbot interactions for Rain Networks South Africa
- Collaborated in a high stress team enviornment and developed strong leadership skills

Internship - Rain South Africa

2024

- Rotated through multiple departments, gaining exposure to marketing, operations, and client engagement
- Assisted with client-facing marketing activities, including Betway SA20 cricket sponsorship activations at Newlands Stadium