The Brilliant Club Case Study







Tutor Name: James Nixon

PhD Research Area:

Ghost Writing: poetic practice as hauntology

PhD University:
Goldsmiths, University of London

Tutor since: September 2018

Brilliant Club Programme: The Scholars Programme



Which schools have you taught at?

Crown Hills Community College, Leicester, Hamilton Academy, Leicester, Humphrey Perkins School, Loughborough, Woodbrook Vale High School, Loughborough, Rushey Mead Academy, Leicester.

What is your Scholars Programme course title? Ghost Writing.

What made you want to apply to be a Scholars Programme tutor?

I was eager to equip myself with teaching experience, of which I had none in 2018.

What has been the most rewarding moment of your Scholars Programme placement so far?

Practically, I have found every training session organised for PhD tutors by The Brilliant Club extremely rewarding, as they always provide me with new skills to use in the tutorials.

Personally, the most rewarding moment is when I reveal final grades to pupils in Tutorial 7, and seeing how delighted they are with their achievements.



Tell me about being a Scholars Programme tutor. How has it helped in your development as a research student?

The need to refine my research material for a younger audience has enabled me to better understand what aspects of my research are indispensable to creating knowledge and understanding. Therefore, my thesis has become more cogent and streamlined.

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What have you gained from being part of the Scholars Programme community of researchers?

One benefit, among others, of being part of the Scholars Programme community, is that your teaching and course design activities will be considered as relevant professional experience as part of an application for Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy.



How has The Scholars Programme affected the way you approach undergraduate teaching?

I have been introduced to approaches to teaching, including a range of activities and questioning techniques, that I have been able to utilise in my own teaching practice, to great success. Such pedagogical training provided by The Brilliant Club is excellent.

How do you think you have made a difference to pupils as a Scholars Programme tutor?

As somebody from a working-class background, I hope my enthusiasm, expertise and attention to scholars' needs has inspired pupils to consider how they might excel at university, regardless of their backgrounds.

Do you have any advice for someone looking to apply to work as a Scholars Programme tutor?

Apply! The Scholars Programme will boost your confidence and your skills as a teacher, and will help you better understand the relevance of your own research too.



To find out more about how you could become a Scholars Programme tutor, please visit our website at www.thebrilliantclub.org