## Tutoring as an international student

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PhD Research Area: Plants, Food and Health

**University:** University of East Anglia

**Scholars Programme Course Title: The Human** 

**Microbial Relationship** 

**Tutor since: 2021** 



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

It's rewarding to see how much they have learnt over the course of the programme. The feedback of the students can be so heart-warming. At the end of my first placement one student wrote: "The tutorials have made me more confident to believe that I can do things I never knew I could. I'm forever grateful that thanks to my tutor I really learnt a lot and it improved my confidence in my own ability." Mission succeeded!

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

In the classroom, you develop another set of skills than you do in the research environment. While something may seem obvious to you as a scientist, this may be new information for many students. Therefore, you have to rethink how you will explain a difficult topic to a student. Teaching also helps you as a PhD student to reflect on your own research, because the questions from students are very different from questions you get when speaking to a scientific audience.

## How has being a tutor helped your understanding of the UK education system?

The UK higher education system differs from the Dutch system that I followed when I was a HE student myself. The grading system, for instance, is totally different. The Brilliant Club supports all their tutors really well in this, such that students receive fair grades.



To find out more about becoming a Scholars Programme tutor, please click here