

Tutoring as a UCL researcher

Name: Eleanor Tinsley

PhD Research Area: STEM

University: University College London

Scholars Programme Course Title: Nurturing

Nature: Using Animal Behaviour Research to Inform Wildlife Conservation

Tutor since: 2022



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

I applied to tutor on The Scholars Programme to gain additional teaching experience during my PhD beyond the more commonplace university-level teaching. It gave me the opportunity to teach a self-designed, university-level course, which not only gave me the total freedom to cultivate a programme that I felt best reflected my interests and field of study in the hopes of inspiring future conservation biologists, but also gave me the valuable experience of tailoring such a course to the needs of younger students with a more diverse range of interests than those typically studying the same university course or module.

What has been the **most rewarding moment** of your journey so far?

The most rewarding thing about tutoring on The Scholars Programme has been interacting with students whose circumstances are as-yet under-represented in university settings. I am a first-generation student from a northern, working-class background. I had no idea what university really was until I got there, having been urged to apply and to go by teachers at school but having been given little information as to what the university experience would actually entail. As a result, it was extremely fulfilling for me to speak with students from similarly under-represented groups and informally discuss with them what to expect from university as well as teaching them the course content.

How has being a Scholars Programme tutor **helped in your career** so far?

Tutoring on The Scholars Programme has helped me to understand how best to design and develop a university-level course and how to tailor content to the needs of the individuals within a group. It has greatly improved my confidence in communicating my own science, and the training provided by The Brilliant Club has also helped me to evaluate my teaching experience, which I hope to use to apply for my HEA Associate Fellowship.



To find out more about becoming a Scholars Programme tutor, please click [here](#)