

Life Sciences and Medicine Webinar 25.06.2020  
*Julia Kotowska, Arina Machine, Sandhya Narayanan*



project access



# Agenda

Introductions

Life Sciences

Medicine

# Mission to help untraditional students



Project Access is an **international non-profit** set up to provide **bright students from untraditional backgrounds** with personal mentors, who are currently university students at one of our target universities

*We have a network of*

**160+** team members

**3,500+** mentors

*We have supported*

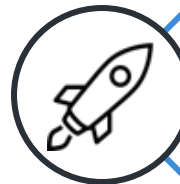
**3,000+** aspiring students!



Mentees come from untraditional backgrounds and need resources and guidance



Mentors help students navigate the application process and offer 1:1 support



Once they receive an offer, mentees form part of our campus community

# Introductions



**Julia Kotowska**  
Incoming clinical 4<sup>th</sup>Year  
**Medicine**  
University of Oxford

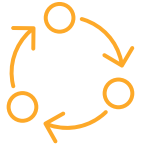


**Arina Machine**  
Incoming 3<sup>rd</sup>Year  
**Natural Sciences (Plant Sciences)**  
University of Cambridge



**Sandhya Narayanan**  
Incoming 4<sup>th</sup>Year  
**Biological Sciences (Cell Biology)**  
Edinburgh University  
University of California, Berkeley

# Why Life Sciences?



Helps you understand **yourself and the world around you**



Life sciences cover a **broad range** of topics ranging from single cells to ecosystems



Research into the subject **helps make the world a better place**. A career in Life Sciences can mean anything from curing diseases to preventing animals from going extinct



Teaches **key transferable skills** even if you don't want to pursue a career in research

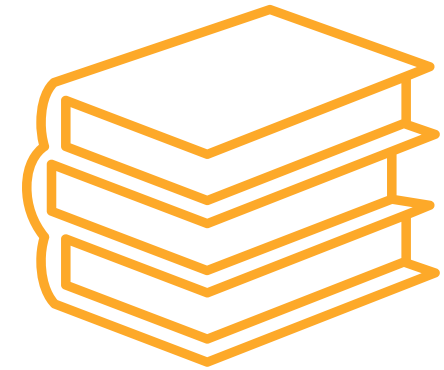
# Studying Life Sciences



You can choose to start with a **broad course** and specialize later, or to go straight into a **specific course** such as Marine Biology



You will likely have larger **lectures**, but a large part of your course will be **lab work**



Usually very heavily **content** based, but also encourages **critical thinking**

# Applying for Life Sciences

**Varies by country and university,** but some of the things you can be expected to do are:



- Write a personal statement
- Complete external assessments (subject SATs, university specific)
- Show experience
- Attend an interview

# Studying at Cambridge

Pick from a large **number of modules** your first and second year, and then specialize in your third year. In the first-year biology options include Evolution and Behavior, Biology of Cells, and Physiology

**Weekly supervisions** in groups of 1-3 in each subject to help consolidate knowledge

**Close community** within your college with a large amount of pastoral support available from your DOS to your tutor.

Cambridge is a **small city** and the heart of many biotech initiatives.



# Studying at Edinburgh



**Four-year** undergraduate degree programme in Scotland



**12 choices** Honours programmes – this means that you don't need to know which area of biology you are interested in before you start. You only have to decide at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> year, giving you plenty of time.



Choices include: Biochemistry; Biotechnology; Cell Biology; Development, Regeneration and Stem Cells; Ecology; Evolutionary Biology; Genetics; Immunology; Molecular Biology; Molecular Genetics; Plant Science; and Zoology.



**Edinburgh:** beautiful and traditional city with lots to see and do!

# What skills will I gain?



## Scientific skills

such as lab work experience,  
research skills as well as technical  
scientific knowledge



## STEM subjects

help gain organisational, time-planning  
and analytical skills as well as group  
working and problem-solving skills

# Research Opportunities



Most top universities will have the opportunity to get involved in **extracurricular research** opportunities.



You may be able to help with lab work during the semester, but this largely done over the **summer holidays**.



Allows you to work in a **lab environment** with other researchers to further understand your specific scientific interests.



You can learn from more **experienced scientists** and be involved in some **very exciting** independent scientific work.

# Career Options



## Further Study

Masters, PhD, Medicine



## Research

University, Industry,  
Research Organisations



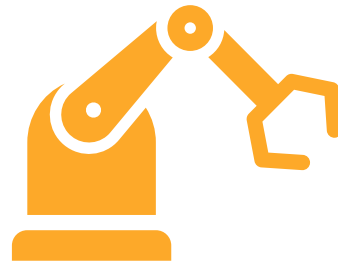
## Other Jobs

Government, finance,  
technology etc.

# Why Medicine?



**Craft of Medicine**



**Science  
and Technology**



**Challenging but  
rewarding profession**

# Applying for Medicine

**UCAT Examination**  
Summer



**BMAT Examination**  
November



**Work Experience**  
Required by most  
schools



**UCAS Deadline**  
15th Oct



**Interviews**  
December - March

# Choosing a University



**Intercalation**  
Additional Degree

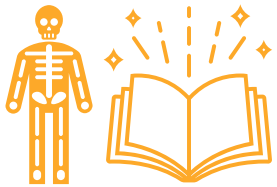


**Teaching Style**  
More on BMA website

# Studying Medicine



**Practicals**



**Traditional Subjects**



**Clinical Preparation**



**Spending lots of time with other medics**



# Studying Medicine at Oxford



**Intercalated BA in Medical Sciences**



**Traditional teaching, strong scientific basis**



**Strong separation between clinical and pre-clinical school**



**Spending lots of time with other medics but primarily in college**

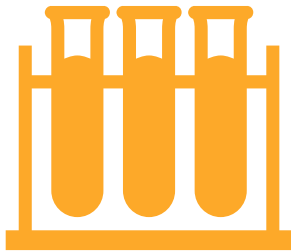
# Career Options



**Patient Work**



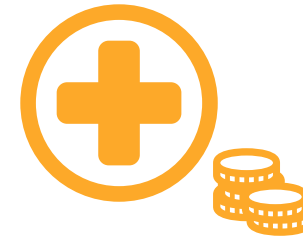
**Further Study**



**Clinical Research**



**Public Health**



**Healthcare Management**

# Q&A

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