

# **Sergio Lozano-Perez– Practical Class Organiser**

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**Gaining Teaching Experience  
- a useful transferable skill**

5th October 2020

# Ways of Gaining Teaching Experience

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- *Teaching Assistant in Undergraduate Teaching Labs*
- *Tutoring*
- *Schools Outreach*

# Teaching Assistants (TAs)

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- *TAs work with Senior Demonstrators (SDs) on a particular practical*
- *Most practicals operate over a 2 week period and take 2 or 3 afternoons a week, 2:00 to 5:00pm*
- *TA present throughout the practical*
- *TA paid for work done*
- *TA needs to help set up the practical, do the practical in advance, and collect a set of data*
- *Later this term, we will be asking for volunteers to start in Hilary Term*
- *TAs initially serve for one year, can be extended*
- *You will need your supervisor's permission*
- *You will need to sign a contract*

# **This year things are a bit different though...**

- **Covid19-related measures mean that we cannot run all practicals in the lab.**
- **Only a selection of practicals will run as usual, with reduced groups and running for 5 or 6 weeks instead – These practicals will need more than one TA**
- **The rest of the practicals will be pre-recorded, with the TA and the SD running the experiment and producing the data that the students will use for their plots, calculations, discussion, etc.**
- **Overall, the need for TAs is the same as before, just their duties are slightly different...**

# Teaching Assistants (TAs) for practical classes – who can apply?

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**Any of you!**

- *you don't need to have been an undergrad in the dept*
- *you don't need to have a Materials degree*
- *there are Practicals based around Physics and Chemistry too.*

# TA Induction - compulsory

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Some time in December (probably during the first week) – using Teams

- *you will learn more about what is involved in being a TA*
- *helps you to decide if you want to do the job*

# Practical Classes – Further Information

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<http://www.materials.ox.ac.uk/teaching/ug/ugpracticals.html>

**NB Different process for TAs for practicals involving electron microscopy (TT only)**

# Tutoring

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- *undergrad tutorials*
- *one tutor to 2 or 3 students*
- *rare to be asked*
- *may be possibility of helping with Crystallography Classes or Maths Classes*



# Schools Outreach

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- ***wide range of opportunities***
    - ***giving short talks***
    - ***assisting in workshops for school pupils***
    - ***visiting schools***
    - ***acting as host for residential courses held at Oxford***
    - ***acting as a Science and Engineering Ambassador***
- etc***

**Note that this year, most activities will be virtual**

- ***for more info contact the Schools Liaison Officer***  
***schools.liaison@materials.ox.ac.uk***