Gaining Teaching Experience
- a useful transferable skill
Ways of Gaining Teaching Experience

- Teaching Assistant in Undergraduate Teaching Labs
- Tutoring
- Schools Outreach
Teaching Assistants (TAs)

- 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?

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

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

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

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

- 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

- 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 liaisen @ materials.ox.ac.uk