## **MYKOLAS**



Physics Tutor

#### **Education**

University of Oxford: Master of Physics, 2018-current;

First year results: 78% (First Class Honours)

Physics Aptitude Test (PAT): 80% (top 5% of Oxford applicants)

3-time National Physics Olympiad silver medallist (2015, 2017 & 2018)

2-time International Physics Olympiad training camp participant (2017 & 2018)

Lithuanian A-Levels: Maths & Further Maths A\*, English A\*, Physics A\*

## **Teaching Experience**

I have extensive experience with Oxbridge admissions, including admissions test preparation (STEP, PAT & MAT), personal statement composition & advice, and interview preparation. This academic year I have helped students receive offers for Oxford Physics, Computer Science and Cambridge Natural Science. One of my students currently studies Physics with me at Oxford!

I have experience preparing students for Science Olympiads. I have led a Physics Club for students in the high school I graduated from, helping them bronze and silver medals in the National Physics Olympiad.

I also teach GCSE and A-Level Physics and Maths, as well as the equivalent qualifications in Lithuania. I am happy to teach IB, as well as other qualifications.

#### **Testimonials**

"Mykolas is a very polite and patient tutor. Not only did he help me with wave motion and optics problems, but also he facilitated my admission process to the University of Oxford. His explanations are clear and precise. If you need any help with physics, I highly recommend Mykolas!" -Arnas M., PAT & Admissions, currently studies Physics at Oxford

"Mykolas has a fantastic ability to approach various problems of physics in the most elegant yet simple way. I'm very satisfied with the outcome of this tutorial experience. I managed to not only broaden my general knowledge of physics but also gained invaluable experience in preparation for academic tasks such as writing a professional personal statement and attending

physics-related competitions, including physics and astronomy Olympiads." Ignas V., PAT, Personal Statement, Admissions & Interview Prep

"Mykolas has offered a great deal of help preparing me for Mathematics STEP exam. His ability to explain the same concept in multiple different ways has helped me understand topics regarding maths that I have never come across before." Simas D., STEP

## **Tuition Approach**

### Admissions Test Preparation (STEP, MAT, PAT & others)

I start with an evaluation of the current knowledge and ability of the student by setting a past paper of the test the student wants to sit. Based on the results, a rough lesson plan is formed. Usually, the learning process is split up into topics the test covers (e.g. Mechanics, Electricity and Magnetism, Waves etc. for the PAT). The student is then set questions from Past Papers of previous years on a particular topic, as well as problems of a similar format from other sources, if necessary. The questions are then discussed during the lessons: a lot of the time, a student is shown a problem solving technique that can be applied to many other questions. However, sometimes a particular question exposes a more fundamental gap in understanding, in which case we can take a step back from the test and think about the topic in question. Finally, mock exams are set at regular intervals to evaluate the students progress. When the test date is nearing, the mock exams become the focus of the sessions, with an emphasis on exam technique, time management and efficient solution writing.

### Personal Statement Consulting

The start point is always the original draft of the student; if they haven't composed one yet, a rough guideline is given, but an emphasis is put on writing the way the student thinks they should. Then, the discussion is roughly split up into two topics: content ant form. I make sure the student shows the best version of themselves, and emphasises the points relevant to those reading the Personal Statement in the future. I also make sure that this is done in a readable, structured and concise way. All this is done in a very open discussion setting, where the final decision is always on the student. Drafts are discussed extensively many times to re-evaluate the general picture, as well as check the fine details of the text. Personal Statements of other successful applicants are utilised to show the variety of options the student has in organising the Personal Statement. If the student wishes, guidelines are given on what experience can be gained until the submission of the Personal Statement that could be added into it.

# Interview Preparation

The interview is mainly to demonstrate the ability to think on your feet and absorb new information, and the way I approach interview prep is exactly so: to improve with practice one's ability to reason about new situations from some general principles, and also to teach students how to "collaborate" with the interviewers and pick up hints that are given. All of this is taught through the types of problems that occur most frequently in Physics and Mathematics interviews.

#### A-Level, GCSE, IB (and equivalent) Maths and Physics

The heart and soul of the learning process is solving Physics problems, as it is the best indication whether a student has a deep understanding of the phenomena involved. It is how I introduce a lot of theoretical concepts too, as it makes the learning more engaging and

convinces students that everything has an application. With every problem, I try and discuss how it is similar to others seen before, and how it is different, to try and create a comprehensive picture of Physics, rather than a random set of facts. I adjust the speed of learning to the student, so that I can create a calm and engaging environment where the student doesn't feel overwhelmed and can ask as many questions as they want.