

StudentShapers Recruitment: Calling 2nd and 3rd year Mechanical Engineering undergraduates

Making first year maths more inclusive

Bursary: £330 per week for 8 weeks full time during summer

Who should apply: 2nd/3rd year students enrolled on MEng in Mechanical Engineering who love maths and are interested in making the first year maths module more inclusive. We encourage applicants from overseas students and students from diverse and minoritized backgrounds.

Campus/Location: South Kensington, Department of Mechanical Engineering. Can be remote for part of the project.

Project details: Mechanical Engineering undergraduates spend a lot of time doing maths in their first year. We would like **two student partners to work with us over the summer to help make the first year maths module more inclusive**. Our students have first-hand experience of learning on the module, so they are aware of the impact of where equality, diversity and inclusivity (EDI) has not been adequately considered. Students who have studied overseas will offer different perspectives and valuable insight of learning the curriculum. Additionally, students from diverse and minoritised backgrounds will also offer value and unique perspectives of the curriculum.

Together the staff and student partners will identify and implement appropriate changes to the notes, problem sheets and other learning and teaching activities. This could include: rewriting parts of the notes and problem sheets to increase accessibility, particularly for learners with specific learning difficulties; adding supportive video resources or other activities highlighting examples of diverse applications of key concepts; adding explicit links to other modules; decolonising the module; adding group learning activities to get students talking to each other about maths as well as working individually.

The student partners will gain an understanding of EDI issues in learning and teaching, they will learn latex typesetting for writing beautiful mathematics, and they will have a meaningful impact on the learning experience of future cohorts.

The project will provide a model for improving accessibility of other modules in our degree course. It will support embedding EDI in our curriculum and significantly contribute to fostering an inclusive and diverse community of learners.

How to apply:



Applications should be made via the 'expression of interest' form on the StudentShapers website ([here](#)) or accessed using the QR code. This will then be distributed directly to the appropriate staff partner. The form includes the opportunity to write 300-500 words on why you wish to engage with the project. Informal interviews or meetings may be used for selection.

Deadline: 5pm Friday 22nd April

Contact details of staff partners: Dr Linda Stringer l.stringer@imperial.ac.uk Dr Julie Varley j.varley@imperial.ac.uk