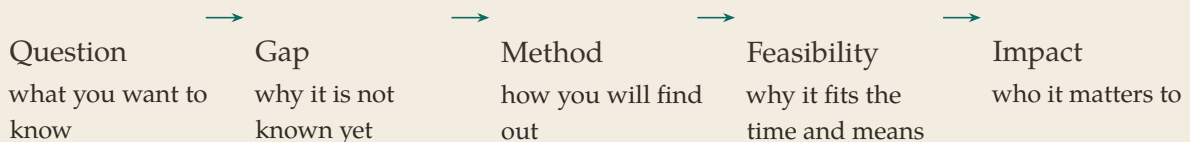

Postgraduate and career mentorship

with Lucas Rey

Master's and PhD applications, research proposals and supervisor outreach, interviews, and the move from university into industry.

The shape of a research proposal



Each box is a question a supervisor or a selection panel is likely to ask.

00

At a glance

One-to-one mentorship for the applications and moves after a first degree, from someone who has made the academic ones and works alongside industry every day.

Who it is for

Final-year students and graduates applying for Master's or PhD programmes in engineering and the physical sciences, and early-career engineers moving into research or industry.

What we work on

Where to apply, research proposals, first contact with supervisors, interviews, and CVs and statements, with feedback on what you write.

How it works

Online, one to one, planned backwards from your deadlines.

Fees

Agreed on the free introductory call, once we know your plans and your deadlines.

Your mentor

Lucas Rey, DPhil candidate in Engineering Science at the University of Oxford, after an MRes at the University of Cambridge; working on turbine research for aerospace.

The one rule

Everything you submit is yours. I question, give feedback and help you prepare; I never write your proposal, statement, CV or emails for you.

One next step

Book the free introductory call at lucasrey.com/enquire

What we work on

The parts of an application that decide it, and the move that follows.

Where to apply

Programmes, research groups and funding routes that fit your interests, and how to read a group's recent papers before you decide.

The research proposal

The question, the gap, the method, the feasibility and the impact, argued in your own words. You draft; I give feedback; you rewrite.

First contact with supervisors

Whether to write at all (many funded studentships ask you to apply directly), who to contact, what a short first email needs to show, and how to follow up. You write and send it yourself.

Interviews

Mock interviews on your proposal, your past projects and the technical fundamentals of your field, with feedback after each one.

CVs and statements

What each reader looks for, and feedback on the versions you write, until they are clear, specific and true.

Into industry

How research skills translate into engineering roles, how to present your research to an employer, and practice for technical interviews.

Honest about outcomes

No one can promise an offer, a studentship or a job. What mentorship can do is make sure that what reaches the panel is your best work, clearly argued, and that you walk into the interview prepared.

02

How it works

01

Intake

You send me your CV, your transcript so far, the areas that interest you and any deadlines. I read it before we meet.

02

A plan

We list the programmes or roles, their deadlines and what each needs, and plan the sessions backwards from the first deadline.

03

Drafts and feedback

You write; I read and question; you rewrite. Proposals and statements usually take several rounds.

04

Outreach

You contact supervisors or employers yourself, with a clear first message and a plan for following up.

05

Interviews

Mock interviews on your own material and your field's fundamentals, until the likely questions hold few surprises.

About Lucas

An engineer in a university research group that works alongside industry, who has been through these applications.

Credentials

DPhil candidate,
Engineering Science,
University of Oxford
MRes, University of
Cambridge
MEng and BEng,
First Class Honours,
Mechanical Engineering
Qualified engineer
(Italian State Exam,
2020)
DBS certificate, shown
to any client on request

I am a mechanical engineer working in aerospace research. My research is in turbine aerothermal performance for future propulsion and power, carried out at the Oxford Thermofluids Institute.

I came to the Oxford DPhil after an MRes at Cambridge, so I know these UK applications from the applicant's side.

My daily work is research: designing experiments, writing software to process data, building models and writing results up so that others can check them. That is what a research panel wants to see you are ready for.

I have taught and mentored students for more than ten years. Mintnib is my practice: online preparation for university admissions at mintnib.com, and one-to-one work with me.

04

Formats and fees

Set by your deadlines. The introductory call is free.

Frequency

Weekly, or more often in the weeks before a deadline or an interview.

Mode

Online and one to one. Drafts are shared in a folder you own.

Time zone

My booking page shows the available times in your own time zone.

Fees

Fees are agreed on the free introductory call, once we know your plans and your deadlines.

Questions people often ask

01

Will you write or edit my proposal?

No. I give feedback and ask the questions a panel will ask; the writing stays yours, which is also what makes you able to defend it at interview.

02

Can you introduce me to supervisors?

No. I do not contact supervisors on your behalf. I help you find the right people and write a first message that stands on its own.

03

I am applying outside the UK. Can you help?

I know the UK system from my own applications. For other countries we work from each programme's published requirements, and I say on the call where my knowledge stops.

04

Can you guarantee an offer or funding?

No one can. We aim for the strongest honest application you can make.

05

Do I need to declare your help?

If a programme asks you to declare help received, declare it. Feedback and questions are normal; the words remain yours.

A strong application shows a question you care about,
and that you have the means to answer it.

Book the free introductory call at lucasrey.com/enquire



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lucas@lucasrey.com mintnib.com