



Gower College Swansea
Coleg Gŵyr Abertawe



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NEWS RELEASE TO SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

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Welsh students are heading to read Mathematics in Cambridge University

The pilot STEP 2&3 course organised by Gower College Swansea and the Further Mathematics Support Programme (FMSP) Wales was a success, with two students accepted to read Mathematics in Cambridge University in 2015. Congratulations to Omkar Kamat from Bassaleg School and Jamie Dougherty from Gower College Swansea.

Both students received very high offers A*(M)A&(FM)A and grade 1 in both STEP 2 and STEP 3 papers and did exceptionally well. Omar who is going to Trinity College Cambridge said: *"I would love to tell you that I got S1S in STEP 1,2,3 respectively and will be studying at Trinity College Cambridge. I would like to thank you for providing excellent lectures and notes during the STEP sessions. Your notes and lectures made STEP seem fun and less stressful."*

Students who apply to study Mathematics degrees in Cambridge, Oxford and other Russell Group Universities may get offers requiring them to take extra exams in Mathematics, such as an AEA qualification or STEP papers. Mira Peric, the course tutor commented: *"STEP papers are very different from an A-level Maths or Further Maths exams and require a very thorough knowledge of mathematics concepts. It is not just the techniques that are difficult but every question needs to be approached as a new problem."* State-funded schools and Colleges may find it difficult to support students taking STEP papers. Although only students applying to read Maths at Cambridge receive offers with STEP 2 & 3, the preparation for STEP 2 & 3 can be broken down into several courses and some courses can be useful to all students applying to Oxford, Cambridge, UCL, Imperial College, Warwick, Bath, Bristol and Loughborough Universities.

The pilot STEP 2 & 3 course started in October 2014 in Swansea University and attracted more than 20 students from Carmarthenshire, Gwent, Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Newport and Pembrokeshire. Not every student received an offer from the university they wanted and only 10 students stayed on the course till the end. The results are excellent with all students heading to Russell Group Universities. When asked why they took this course, the participants mentioned challenge as well as exam preparation: *"I wanted to challenge myself. Maths at A-level is too easy and doing higher level stuff is more fun. I also want to go to Oxford next year to do Maths and Philosophy so this should help me quite a bit. I take this course not because it is easy, but because it is hard"*.

FMSP Wales Project Coordinator Sofya Lyakhova said: *"With the numbers of Further Mathematics rising steadily from 2010 we see more and more Further Maths students targeting Oxbridge. It is essential that STEP support is available to them. We are very pleased that we were able to put a course together in 2014/15 and are looking forward to welcoming more students next year"*.

Gower College Swansea, at the invitation of and in collaboration with, the University of Cambridge, is the 'hub' institution in the Swansea HE+ Consortium, working with the seven state sixth-form schools in Swansea.

The FMSP Wales
Is managed by
Rheolir FMSP
Cymru gan



www.wimcs.ac.uk

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hariannir gan



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

HE+ aims to help students develop academic skills while inspiring them to aim as high as possible when making university choices and providing support when it comes to preparing competitive applications to highly selective universities.

This year, the Swansea HE+ Consortium will also be supported through the Welsh Government's Seren Programme.

Notes for Editors

1. STEP - <http://www.admissionstestingservice.org/for-test-takers/step/about-step/>.
AEA - <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/advanced-extension-award-mathematics-2008.html>
2. Gower College Swansea – www.gcs.ac.uk
3. The FMSP Wales is managed by The Wales Institute of Mathematical and Computational Sciences (WIMCS) and is in partnership with Mathematics in Education and Industry (MEI, www.mei.org.uk). It is funded by the Welsh Government. More information regarding the Further Maths support programme Wales can be found at: <http://www.furthermaths.org.uk/wales>
4. For more information please contact the FMSP Wales Administrator on 01792 606609 or by email adminwales@furthermaths.org.uk

Datganiad newyddion i Ysgolion a Cholegau

Awst 2015

Myfyrwyr Cymraeg yn mynd i brifysgol Caergrawnt i astudio Mathemateg

Roedd y cwrs rhagbrawf STEP 2 a 3, a drefnwyd gan Goleg Gŵyr Abertawe a'r Rhaglen Gymorth Mathemateg Bellach (FMSP) Cymru yn llwyddiant, gyda dau fyfyrwr yn cael eu derbyn i astudio Mathemateg ym mhrifysgol Caergrawnt yn 2015. Llongyfarchiadau i Omkar Kamat o Ysgol Bassaleg a Jamie Dougherty o Goleg Gŵyr Abertawe.

Derbyniwyd y ddau gynigion uchel dros ben, A*(M)A&(MB)A a gradd 1 yn y ddau bapur STEP 2 a STEP 3 a gwnaethont yn arbennig o dda. Dywedodd Omar, sy'n mynd i Goleg y Drindod Caergrawnt: *"Rydw i wrth fy modd i gael dweud wrthyfch fy mod wedi cael S1S yn STEP 1, 2 a 3 yn y drefn honno, a byddaf yn astudio yn Ngholeg y Drindod Caergrawnt. Rydw i eisiau eich diolch am ddarparu darlithoedd a nodiadau ardderchog trwy gydol y sesiynau STEP. Roedd eich nodiadau a darlithoedd wedi gwneud STEP yn hwyl ac yn llai o straen."*

Gall myfyrwyr sy'n gwneud cais i astudio graddau Mathemateg yng Nghaergrawnt, Rhydychen, a phrifysgolion eraill Grŵp Russell eistedd arholiadau ychwanegol mewn Mathemateg, fel cymhwyster DUE neu bapurau STEP. Dywedodd tiwtor y cwrs, Mira Peric: *"Mae papurau STEP yn wahanol iawn i arholiadau Mathemateg a Mathemateg Bellach Lefel A ac mae angen dealltwriaeth drylwyr o syniadau mathemategol ar fyfyrwr sy'n eistedd y papur. Nid dim ond y technegau sy'n anodd ond mae angen edrych ar bob cwestiwn fel problem newydd."* Gall colegau ac ysgolion a ariennir gan y wladwriaeth ei chael yn anodd cynorthwyo myfyrwyr sy'n eistedd papurau STEP. Er mai dim ond myfyrwyr sy'n ymgeisio i Brifysgol Caergrawnt sy'n derbyn cynigion yn cynnwys STEP 2 & 3, gellir torri lawr y paratoad ar gyfer STEP 2 & 3 i nifer o gyrsiau, a gall rhai ohonynt fod yn ddefnyddiol i bob myfyrwr sy'n gwneud cais i brifysgolion Rhydychen, Caergrawnt, UCL, Imperial College, Warwick, Caerfaddon, Bryste a Loughborough.

Dechreuodd y cwrs rhagbrawf STEP 2 & 3 ym mis Hydref 2014 ym mhrifysgol Abertawe, a denwyd dros 20 myfyrwr o Sir Gaerfyrddin, Gwent, Abertawe, Castell Nedd Port Talbot, Casnewydd a Sir Benfro. Ni chafodd pob myfyrwr gynnig i'r brifysgol yr oeddent yn gobeithio mynd iddo, a 10 myfyrwr arhosodd tan ddiwedd y cwrs. Mae'r canlyniadau yn ardderchog gyda phob myfyrwr yn mynd i brifysgol Grŵp Russell. Pan ofynnwyd i'r myfyrwr pam wnaethant gymryd y cwrs, fe wnaethon nhw sôn am yr her yn ogystal â pharatoi ar gyfer arholiadau: *"Roeddwn i eisiau herio fy hun. Mae Mathemateg Lefel A yn rhy hawdd ac mae gwneud y gwaith uwch yn fwy o hwyl. Rydw i hefyd eisiau mynd i brifysgol Caergrawnt blwyddyn nesaf i astudio Mathemateg ac Athroniaeth a dylai hyn fy helpu eithaf tipyn. Rydw i'n cymryd y cwrs yma ddim am ei fod yn hawdd, ond oherwydd ei fod yn anodd"*.

Dywedodd Cydlynnydd Prisoect FMSP Cymru Sofya Lyakhova: “*Gyda’r niferoedd Mathemateg Bellach yn cynyddu’n gyson ers 2010, rydym yn gweld mwy o fyfyrwyr Mathemateg Bellach yn targedu Rhydychen. Mae’n hanfodol bod cymorth STEP ar gael iddynt. Rydym yn hapus iawn ein bod ni wedi medru cynnal y cwrs yn 2014/2015 ac yn edrych ymlaen at dderbyn mwy o fyfyrwyr blwyddyn nesaf*”.

Coleg Gŵyr Abertawe, ar wahoddiad ac mewn cydweithrediad â Phrifysgol Caergrawnt, yw’r sefydliad “hwb” i Gonsortiw AU+ Abertawe, yn cydweithredu gyda’r saith ysgol chweched-dosbarth Abertawe.

Mae AU+ yn anelu at helpu myfyrwyr ddatblygu eu sgiliau academaidd yn ogystal a’u hysbrydoli i anelu mor uchel ag sy’n bosib wrth wneud dewisiadau prifysgol, a darparu cymorth wrth baratoi ymgeision cystadleuol i brifysgolion dethol iawn.

Eleni, mae Consortiw AU+ Abertawe yn cael ei gynorthwyo gan Raglen Seren Llywodraeth Cymru hefyd.

Nodiadau ar gyfer Golygyddion

1. STEP - <http://www.admissionstestingservice.org/for-test-takers/step/about-step/>.
AEA - <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/advanced-extension-award-mathematics-2008.html>
2. Coleg Gŵyr Abertawe – www.gcs.ac.uk
3. Rheolir FMSP Cymru gan Sefydliad Gwyddorau Cyfrifiadurol a Mathemategol Cymru (WIMCS) mewn partneriaeth â Mathematics in Education and Industry (MEI, www.mei.org.uk). Fe’i hariannir gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Am fwy o wybodaeth ynglŷn â FMSP Cymru ewch i : <http://www.furthermaths.org.uk/wales>
4. Am fwy o wybodaeth, cysylltwch â gweinyddwr FMSP Cymru ar 01792 606609 neu drwy e-bost adminwales@furthermaths.org.uk