Dr. James Brooks
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Research, Training, Development of training materials, Consulting.

I want to identify the most promising and rigorously analysed research in the world, and apply it as effectively as possible to make the world better for everyone. I am looking for varied and challenging roles that help me achieve that aim.

My particular areas of interest are personal effectiveness, decision making, behavioural psychology (nudges), communication, and education (formative evaluation, motivation, metacognition).

I can deliver this through the evaluation of existing programs and practices; by creating bespoke training modules (delivered face to face or through eLearning); and by training or coaching individuals and teams.

Army Cadet Force | Content writer & Researcher | Aug-2014 to Dec-2015
- Initial research, creation of content, and suggestions for learning interactions for a series of three eLearning modules delivered to the Army Cadet Force Officers.
- Module titles: Leadership, Self-development, and Problem Solving.
- Designed to meet the requirements of the Institute of Leadership & Management's (ILM) "Understanding Leadership" unit.

UCL | Course Consultant | Dec-2014 to Sept-2015
- Tasked with improving a core engineering module for 600 undergraduates.
- Reviewed and improved the course evaluation questionnaire.
- Created pre-lecture checklists for students. This was used for formative evaluation by the faculty and to improve metacognitive learning for the students.
- Setup and ran usability tests of the eLearning site by observing and interviewing students.
- The advice I have given is based in specific education and motivation research and implemented using key ideas from the Behavioural Insights Team's E.A.S.T. framework.

Developing Cognition | Workshop & Training Instructor | Sept-2012 to Current
- I have been teaching workshops on motivation, self-control, and effective learning.
- Topics have included: How learning works, how to form positive habits, rapidly acquiring new skills, achieving your goals, and effectiveness.
- Each topic is based on published research hence I conducted an extensive literature review and background reading for every workshop.

- Workshops and presentations at: Oxford University's Centre of Effective Altruism Group, Board Intelligence Ltd., The Effective Altruism Summit (USA), Stirling University, The Center for Applied Sciences, and The Scottish Primate Research Group.

5app | Head of Software Development | Aug-2011 to Dec-2015

- Responsible for:
  - creating the development roadmap from meeting clients to delivery,
  - delivering on-time and budget,
  - managing the development team (as a Certified ScrumMaster).
- Implemented a major refactoring to improve the quality of our code and automate a number of time consuming tasks.
- Moved to a more agile development structure after I became a Certified ScrumMaster.
- To ensure the product met the needs of users and was understandable I carried out multiple rounds of user testing; iterating and improving the product after each round.

University of Bath | Technical Copyeditor | July-2009 to Sept-2009

- Reviewed and suggested corrections and alterations for distance learning material.
- Topic: *"Electrical Power System Economics".*

White Hart Multimedia | Camera Operator | Oct-2002 to July-2010

- Part-time work as camera operator across UK and in Kenya.
- Filmed interviews of numerous board-level directors.
- Assisted with workshops on media training and communication skills.

Education

University of Bath | Ph.D. | July-2006 to July-2013

- Topic: *"Quantifying and mitigating risk in large scale renewable wind power generation"*.
- Research involved: mathematical modelling, artificial intelligence, risk analysis.
- Presented research papers in UK, Italy, and China.

University of Bath | B.Sc. | Oct-2003 to July-2006

- *Electrical and Electronic Engineering*. Graduated with honours 2:1.
- Undergraduate project: computer modelling of a mag-lev train based around a custom numerical integrator and an artificial intelligence optimised control system (written from scratch as a multi-threaded C++ program).

Personal Interests

Sports: Currently: dance, weight lifting, rock climbing. Previously: karate, modern pentathlon.
Other: Effective altruism and charity. Rationality and practical philosophy (CFAR/Less Wrong).