



BIOS

BRITISH AND IRISH
ORTHOPTIC SOCIETY

orthoptics.org.uk/careers

Academic Lecturer Stories

Meet Viral

Why did you decide to become a lecturer? I had always hoped to be involved in research and teaching following my graduation as an Orthoptist and luckily through my research PhD this was facilitated with multiple opportunities to conduct research and teach within the UK and abroad. Following on from these experiences and the thorough enjoyment (as well as hard work!), I felt my strengths aligned with what was required for an academic career. Its been the best decision for me as the flexibility that is also afforded within this role affords me a good work life balance which has always been extremely important to me.

What is a typical day like in your current role? Every day is very different! A typical day in my current role would consist of delivering lectures and holding personal/academic tutor meetings.

What do you love most about your role? The ability to continually learn and grow and hopefully pass this ethos onto the next generation of Orthoptists.

What skills do you find essential for your job? Most importantly being personable and having excellent communication with students and staff.

How would you define your role in 3 words?

Fun, Rewarding, Collaborative

What are your aspirations in your career? I hope to continue my academic journey within the University of Sheffield and progress into senior lecturer/professor in the future. Longer term, I would love to set up similar Orthoptics and Ophthalmology courses in 3rd world countries to provide essential eye care required for those in need.

What is the most challenging part of your role?

Marking with short deadlines around the examination period! I think every academic would agree with this!

Any advice for people considering becoming a lecturer in orthoptics? Go for it - You wont look back!



Viral Sheth

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