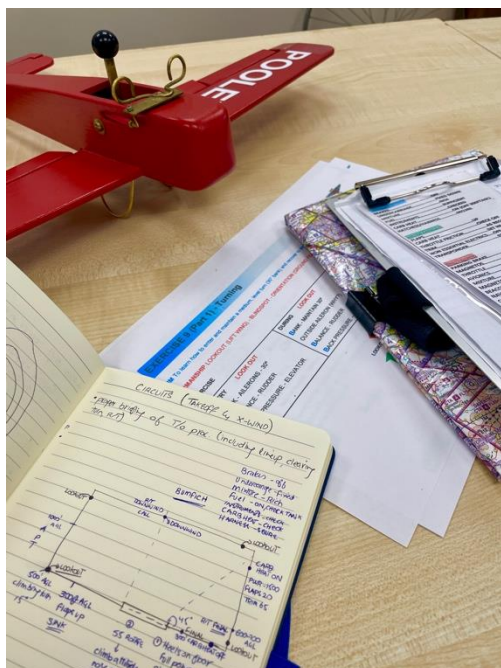


# The Swire FI Scholarship 2022

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Ever since I had started my flying, it was a dream of mine to become a Flight Instructor (FI) and help out new students on their goal to becoming a private or commercial pilot. With this goal in mind, I applied to the Honorable Company of Air Pilot's Flight Instructor scholarship 2022 and was overly joyed when I received the selection call in May 2022.

I chose to do my Flight Instructor Training Course (FITC) at Leicestershire Aero Club due to their strong reputation and ability to accommodate me on the weekends. The quality of instruction I received from the FITC instructors and general support from the team was very motivating. The Head of Training Peter Green and Chief Flying Instructor Nick o Brien were excellent. They shared their depth of knowledge and experiences with me to help shape me into a good instructor.

A big part of the FI course is ground school—this not only allows you to refresh all your theoretical knowledge, but also allows you to learn different styles of teaching. There are various teaching methodologies, all with their merits and demerits, that can be used with students. Another

big part of the course is learning the instructional patter (the method and sequence to teach the lesson) to teach the student. As a Flight Instructor, you need to make sure that the way of teaching is accurate and easy for a student to understand and apply, and you choose each word to teach appropriately.

The rest of the course combines the theory learnt on the ground while actually delivering the lesson in the aircraft. This was an eye opener for me—there's so much for an instructor to think

about. Not only do you have to teach the lesson to the student, but you also have to think about other traffic, ATC calls, situational awareness, student comfort, checks, positioning etc.



Practice does make you better though, and I felt myself becoming more comfortable with the patter and demonstrations whilst progressing through the course. Another big part of the FI course is learning how to recognize student errors and correct them, which is another challenge in itself. Some errors are obvious and easy to identify and correct, whereas others can be very subtle and tricky to recognize.

Soon enough, it was time for the final Assessment of Competence, which brings everything you learnt during the course together. After lots of finessing and practice, I completed my test with examiner John Pugh and thankfully passed with a few minor improvement points.



Looking at my flying training, I have always believed that each flying stage has been slightly more difficult than the previous, and the Flight Instructor Training course was no different. There were loads to understand, learn and apply to my flying, which I thoroughly enjoyed. I hope to inspire future aviators and help them succeed in the field we all love.

As I come to end of this post, I am starting a flight instructor role with Pilot Flight Training and Leading Edge Aviation based at Oxford Airport. I look forward to developing my flying even further with future students and other instructors and giving back to the field I love so much.

I'd like to thank the amazing team at The Honorable Company of Air Pilots, without whose scholarship and support, none of this would have been possible. I'd also like to thank all my flying instructors and colleagues for their support and knowledge throughout the course.