

I have dreamed of coming to the United States since I was a kid. Actually, in my room, I had a poster on the wall of New York with lyrics from the legendary song „New York, New York“ by Frank Sinatra. It was a dream. But. Since I watched Cartoon Network, all the movies in English, and even did some placements to improve my English at Bath in the United Kingdom. However, that was during school, and when last year came to an end, I had to decide where I wanted to apply, or may I say, apply where everyone applied. So, I applied to the University of Edinburgh and got accepted for an undergraduate degree.

I started it in 2009 doing biochemistry but then realized that most of it is biological sciences rather than chemistry, which I have loved since school but did not apply to it as everyone in my class did to medicine and biochemistry. After a year of doing a biochemistry degree, I realized I wouldn't say I liked it one bit and changed it to chemistry from the second year onwards. Also, what I did I change my undergraduate degree to an integrated undergraduate with a master's in chemistry rather than a bachelor's in chemistry, but little did I know that life had other plans for me.

So, I was on a placement in Grenoble, France, when I got electrocuted, leading to a month in a coma. When I recovered, I got back to studies in Edinburgh straight away. No change to my intellectual capacities was made, resulting in 2013 being rewarded with an award as the best student in Organic Chemistry labs that I did through the fall of 2011, but later - during the 2011-2012 academic year, I got a horrific brain injury on January 13 of 2012. Again, a month in a coma. After recovering and coming back to finish the degree in September of 2012 I showed that my academic capabilities were fantastic before the second trauma, while receiving an award in September 2013 for what I did in the 2011-2012 academic year. But. After returning to the 12-13 academic year, my capabilities appear to have declined, likely due to the transition from being a top student in labs to graduating in 2015 with a second-tier degree.

During my time at the University of Edinburgh, I not only won an award but also secured placements at state-of-the-art research institutions each summer to conduct neuroscience and chemistry research. During my last year in Edinburgh and after graduation, I realized I wanted to work with computers, but did not have a mathematical background, so I enrolled in a doctoral program at Vilnius University, where I recovered from my injuries, resulting in a great GPA when taking doctoral exams. It is a showcase that my academic abilities were still intact and have returned.

However, as I studied in Vilnius, I was also battling past trauma effects, giving unwanted depression, suicidal and loneliness side effects that I started a blog on as a therapy called "Transcend Loneliness", where I posted once or twice a month, even though I did each week when I started. But. Back to graduate studies.

During graduate studies at Vilnius University, I dropped out for three reasons. First, I realized that this research project was not my calling. Second, health issues slowed my mental capacities as I wanted more and more to try myself in the industry and engineering. Third, I realized I wanted to gain an advanced degree in engineering, to do groundbreaking research in the aerospace domain, and to complement my chemistry, programming and AI skills.

So, I made a plan to apply now. The plan came to fruition after I dropped out, particularly in 2022, when I was able to enter the United States to conduct research in Computer Science. However, I was still determining what I wanted to do. So, here comes my job history since 2022 in data engineering, teaching, consulting, and a deep dive into the world of artificial intelligence (AI) and computer science through following top minds in these fields and posting my thoughts about them on social media as well as running blogs like "Molecule to Machine" that analyzes AI's impact on healthcare and "Transcend Loneliness", which discusses how to overcome loneliness. But. Recently, I started a position in the aerospace department of Vilnius Tech, and to complement my expertise, I want to gain advanced knowledge in New York and then bring everything back to my home country. This all crystallized what I want to achieve at Cornell.

I aspire to work with the best minds in Engineering to enhance my technical skills and accelerate advancement in the space industry upon return to Lithuania. I want to combine my chemistry, programming, and AI backgrounds at Cornell while focusing on spacecraft engineering, dynamics, control, and robotics, but I am determined to postpone work towards achieving perfection in these areas while studying and doing a research project in one of the fantastic research groups and working on my personal goals after graduating from Cornell.

That's me in a nutshell, and that's why I aspire to pursue a Master of Engineering degree at Cornell. Thank you for listening to me babble about myself and why I aim to study at Cornell University.