

SCHOOL GRADUATE STORIES

Name: Revadhi Chelvarajah
Degree: Bachelor of Science (Advanced Science)
Year of degree: 1st (2010)
Campus: Parramatta
High School: Oakhill College
Completed Year 12 in: 2009



Is the degree or course structure what you expected?

Coming straight out of high school, my expectations were limited as I was unaware of how universities structure courses. I expected my degree to be an in-depth study of all the core/major sciences – which it certainly is.

How is university different from school?

The major difference between school and university is the notion of self-learning. The amount of freedom, lack of rigid structure and independence associated with university can be either a benefit or a hindrance depending on the student and their application.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?

My high school held frequent presentations by ex-students sharing their experiences of university life, their degrees and the overall transition between school and university. This gave me an understanding of what to expect in university and helped me to foresee some of the inevitable obstacles faced with such a dramatic change.

What is the most interesting thing you've done at university this year?

The most interesting thing I've done is participating in the Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program, enabling me to mentor Indigenous high school students and continue my life ambition of helping others.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?

I have been fortunate enough to work in a special needs school in Sri Lanka, mentor Indigenous high school students, teach primary and high school students in Maths and English and volunteer at the local retirement home.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?

I'm more motivated to achieve my career goals and aspirations of serving others. I've enjoyed being able to do more social work which has made me more determined and certain that my chosen career path is what I want to accomplish.

What advice would you give to students at your high school about pursuing university study?

University is suitable for every individual. The first year at university can be daunting, however, I strongly advise everyone to participate in all the university activities you are passionate about. The best feeling is knowing that you are able to learn, gain experiences and participate in activities you really want to do.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?

UWS offered a course that I could use as an alternate pathway into the actual course and career path I hope to take.

Any other comments or observations about university study?

University has been a positive, enjoyable and rewarding experience. I have been able to learn and get involved in areas I am truly passionate about – changing my life for the better.

Course Information

Bachelor of Science (Advanced Science)



Where is it held (campus)?

**Parramatta, Campbelltown
and Hawkesbury**

How long is it?

3 years full time

Recommended studies:

**HSC Mathematics and at least two of biology, chemistry
and/or physics.**

Career opportunities:

**Examples include research in private industry, national and
international scientific organizations, government
environmental agencies, forensic work, patent work,
medical laboratories, science-based work in industry,
scientific equipment companies.**

Subjects include:

**Students enrolled in Bachelor of Science (Advanced
Science) must complete three research units in conjunction
with the requirements of the key program they are
undertaking, as well as the appropriate timetabled project in
their discipline in their final semester.**

ATAR (2010)

**Parramatta – 94.65, Campbelltown – 93.45, Hawkesbury
90.80**

Additional information:

**Students must maintain a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 5.0
or above to continue their enrolment in the course.
The program includes advanced coursework, academic
extension activities and a significant amount of research
training. A mentoring program will link you with an
experienced academic staff member and research groups.**

**Depending on majors and electives chosen, graduates may
satisfy the requirements for admission to various
professional bodies, such as the Royal Australian Chemical
Institute, the Australian Society of Microbiology, the
Australian Institute of Biology, the Australian Institute of
Physics, the Australian Society for Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology, the Australian Mathematical Society, the
Statistical Society of Australia and the Royal Zoological
Society.**

For more information:

**Visit the UWS website course information at
<http://future.uws.edu.au/>**