

SCHOOL GRADUATE STORIES



Name: Melissa Colusso
Degree: Bachelor of Psychology
Year of degree: 1st (2010)
Campus: Bankstown
High School: Cerdon College, Merrylands
Completed Year 12 in: 2009
Scholarships held:
Academic Excellence Scholarship.



Is the degree or course structure what you expected?

The psychology degree is what I expected, but I didn't really know much about university, so I didn't know what was expected of me as a student.

How is university different from school?

At university, there is more of an emphasis on individual learning. There is more freedom and the structure is much more relaxed.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?

The teachers kept telling me that university would be different, but I was so used to the structure of school that I couldn't get my head around the idea of change.

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

Being a part of the Aspire Future Leaders program is definitely the most interesting part. We get to attend workshops and special events.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?

Surviving my first semester, even though I hardly knew what I was doing, acting as an ambassador for the University of Western Sydney and maintaining good grades.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?

Yes, after I started the course and heard the lecturers speak about the different opportunities in psychology, I reconsidered my options.

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

Make sure you choose your course wisely so it keeps you interested and keep up your motivation.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?

The campuses are at convenient locations for me, the buildings are younger and the atmosphere is much friendlier.

Course Information



Bachelor of Psychology

Where is it held (campus)?

Bankstown

How long is it?

4 years full time

Career opportunities:

Examples include: psychology or research positions, industrial and organisational psychology, counselling psychology, vocational psychology, clinical neuropsychology, developmental disability and educational psychology, forensic psychology and sport psychology.

Subjects include:

Examples include: Social and Developmental Psychology, Behaviour and Environment, Personality, Motivation and Emotion, Human Learning and Cognition, Abnormal Behaviour and Psychological Testing and Neuroscience.

ATAR (2010)

81.75

Additional information:

Completion of an accredited four year program in psychology will lead to conditional registration as a psychologist-in-training by the NSW Psychologists Registration Board and associate membership of the Australian Psychological Society. On completion of a further two years of study the intern psychologist will be eligible for full registration and for membership of the society.

The fourth year of this course, if you meet the requirements, is an Honours program, involving specialised research. Fourth-year students not undertaking the Honours program will study a Specialist Psychology program comprising one core unit in psychological assessment, two electives, research methods, and an empirical research project presented as a thesis.

For more information:

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