Name: Candice Peroumal
Degree: Bachelor of Arts (Psychology)
Year of degree: 3rd (2013)
Campus: Bankstown
High School: Nazareth Senior College (years 11 and 12)
Mount St Joseph, Milperra (years 7 – 10)
Left High School: 2009

Is the degree or course structure what you expected?
I studied psychology for a year after I finished school, so I had an idea about what I was getting myself into. The Arts units are varied and this gives you a lot of flexibility in choosing what to study.

How is university different from your memories of school?
University requires greater self-discipline, commitment and motivation to reach specific goals. School has an expected attainment whereas university is optional, so every student is striving to reach his or her personal goals.

How did your previous life experiences help you in preparing for university?
I was lucky to have studied in the past, worked full-time in various industries and gained life skills throughout this time to prepare me for the demands of university.

What is the most interesting thing you’ve done at university so far?
Volunteering as a mentor in Pathways to Dreaming: the UWS Indigenous School Student Mentoring Program. Through mentoring I have gained valuable skills in communicating with high school students, who have inspired me to take a unit in Indigenous studies.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?
I have maintained great grades while also meeting family commitments. As a mother of two young children, I found this a great challenge and just getting through it all is an achievement.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?
I came back to uni to complete my psychology degree, which is a long process. I have explored various areas of the profession and am still undecided as to which area of psychology I will pursue.

What advice would you give to other mature-age people considering university study?
Ensure you have a social support system to help you through the course, especially if you also have children. Tertiary education opens many doors and opportunities to pursue various professions – it’s worth it.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?
UWS is convenient for me to travel to. Having to organise my time wisely, this was an important factor for me. I was also attracted to the academic research UWS undertakes into the South West and Western Sydney regions, which are culturally rich, diverse and thriving.

Any other comments or observations about university study?
Deciding to complete my degree is the best decision I have ever made. Close to completing my degree, I have been able to find work in an area I am interested in and to pursue my interests.

More School Graduate Stories can be seen at
http://www.uws.edu.au/community/in_the_community/for_schools/school_graduate_stories
Bachelor of Arts (Psychology)

Where is it held (campus)? Bankstown and Penrith

How long is it? 3 years full time, 6 years part time

Career opportunities: Examples include research positions in private and government sectors, counselling, educational psychology, politics and policy development, forensic psychology, sport psychology and human resources.

Subjects include: Your key program will be in psychology, but you can choose your electives from many other degree programs taught across UWS, with units from areas such as health psychology and the psychology of language.

ATAR (2013) 70.00

Additional information: Completion of a 160-credit point Key Program in Psychology, which includes a 12-unit psychology sequence, will fulfill the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA) and Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) requirements for a three-year accredited sequence in Psychology. Completion of a fourth year will satisfy the educational requirements for registration as a Provisional Psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA) and the Associate Membership requirements of the Australian Psychological Society (APS).

For more information: Visit the UWS website course information at http://future.uws.edu.au/