

SCHOOL GRADUATE STORIES

Name: Claire Duggan
Degree: Master of Teaching (Secondary)
Year of degree: 2011 – mid 2012
Campus: Kingswood
High School: Elizabeth Macarthur High School
Completed Year 12 in: 2001
Scholarships held: Department of Education and Training Teacher Education Scholarship



Is the degree or course structure what you expected?

Yes. I had studied the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture at Sydney University before I began this Masters course, so I knew what to expect of a university course.

How is university different from school?

University is very different – there is no spoon feeding. At times it is full on, with information overload.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?

Not everyone wants to go to university, so there is no general preparation.

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

I've enjoyed doing the teacher practicals in schools for science and agriculture.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?

I received a distinction grade in my first assignment for 'Introduction to Teaching' and another distinction for my thesis during my undergrad degree.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?

Yes, many times. Before I started the Master of Teaching (Secondary) I wanted to work in animal health. I worked for Pfizer Animal Health and Virbac Animal Health before working in animal quarantine for four years.

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

Go for it! Be sure you know what you want to do or choose an area of study that interests you. It's important to have good time management, but at the same time, enjoy your time at university as it doesn't last long.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?

I chose to study at UWS because it has the Master of Teaching course so close to home and in the 1.5 year mode, instead of the two years at some other universities.

Any other comments or observations about university study?

Balance is important. Balance your study, home life and work life well. Have good time management, be organised, show initiative and do extra study when possible.

Course Information



Master of Teaching (Secondary)

Where is it held (campus)?

Penrith

How long is it?

1.5 years full time

Teaching careers:

Examples include: Dance, Drama, English, Human Society and Its Environment, Languages, Mathematics, Music, PDHPE, Science, Technology and Applied Sciences, Visual Arts

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.

Additional information:

The Master of Teaching (Secondary) is designed for graduates who, through their first degree, have the skills and understanding required for teaching in one or two subject areas in secondary schools. Applicants must have a first degree with appropriate qualifications for secondary teaching. The appropriateness of the studies taken in the first degree is determined by UWS but is consistent with the qualifications standards set by the NSW Institute of Teachers Subject Content Requirements for Teaching in a NSW Secondary School. You will focus on the practical issues in schools, and teaching and learning, through a balance of on-campus classes and theory and a variety of professional experiences.

This qualification turns your specialist undergraduate degree into a clearly signposted career path in teaching. And, as a Masters level qualification, it can help you progress more quickly to leadership positions in schools.

For more information:

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