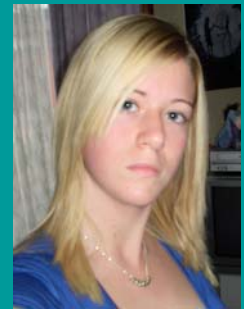


SCHOOL GRADUATE STORIES



Name: Sarah Dugdale
Degree: Double degree: Law and Social Science
Year of degree: 2nd
Campus: Campbelltown and Bankstown
High School: Lurnea High School
Completed Year 12 in: 2007
Scholarships held: Academic excellence



Is the degree or course structure what you expected?

No. Law is a lot of work and is really hard to get your head around...there is a lot of pressure to succeed as law students are very competitive. On the other hand, I really do enjoy Social Science which is very interesting. I am majoring in Criminology – a field I am passionate about.

How is university different from school?

You are very much left to your own devices. No one is there to hold your hand and guide you through the tough times. It is your problem if you do not attend classes or hand in assignments. University does, however, let you be yourself and teaches you a great life lesson – independence.

Did high school help you in preparing for university?

Some of the subjects I completed in my final years of high school have helped me out a fair bit. Society and Culture has given me the best background information for the subjects I am studying in my Social Science degree.

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

Studying victims of crime and being able to apply theories for in-depth analysis. Also performing in a moot (mock trial). I got to put my knowledge to the test and pretend to be a real life lawyer in a real court setting.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?

Not receiving a grade lower than a credit. Last semester was my biggest achievement as I received five high distinctions across my four units.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?

Yes, I chose a double degree so that my options were open. I never thought I'd get a high enough UAI to get into law but that dream became a reality. I've found a new passion in Criminology and I am seriously thinking about doing honours and working within this field.

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

I say just go for it. Think about the subjects you enjoy most at school and go from there. Don't hesitate because you don't know what career you want – that will all come to you later with more life experience. University is a great opportunity and opens many doors for your future. If you don't like what you are doing at Uni it's never too late to change.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?

Location, location, location. For my selections I only picked degrees at UWS. I'm close to both Campbelltown and Bankstown campuses. Also I found that UWS had so many different courses I was interested in and I had been to some of the campuses with my school so I was familiar with them. In addition, my older brother was also studying at UWS and informed me that it was a great university.

Course Information

Bachelor of Social Science (Criminology)/Bachelor of Law

Where is it held (campus)?

Campbelltown and
Bankstown Campuses



How long is it?

5 years full time
Concurrent study of two
degrees in first 3 years
then last two years
dedicated to law component

Recommended studies:

Law - Advanced English
Social Science – 2 unit English

Career opportunities?

Law examples include: solicitor, barrister, corporate management, education, publishing, finance, banking
Social Science (Criminology) include: probation and parole, policy advice and research, community agencies, child protection, local government, police services

Subjects include:

Law: law foundation, criminal law, constitutional law, professional responsibility and legal ethics, commercial law, criminal procedure and evidence
Social Science (Criminology): forensic science, criminal justice and policy, sociology of law, psychological aspects of crime

UAI (2009)

Law = 90.00
Social Science (Criminology) = 60.35

Additional information:

Law – this course combines a broad liberal legal education with a strong practical orientation. It is designed to equip students with the required knowledge and skills for legal practice

For more information:

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