Name: Bharath Balasubramanian
Degree: Bachelor of Business & Commerce/Bachelor of Laws
Year of degree: 2nd
Campus: Campbelltown
High School: Macquarie Fields High School
Completed Year 12 in: 2007
Scholarships held: Academic Excellence

Is the degree or course structure what you expected?
Yes, it has the right mixture of academic and practical learning.

How is university different from school?
The structured 9 – 3 timetable routine is gone. What you learn is your responsibility. The lecturers and professors are there to help you learn, but they will not keep reminding you to do your work like high school teachers.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?
The HSC and the pressure to do well prepares you for the exam period, but university, overall, is a different environment and the best preparations are the orientation sessions and the support services. I recommend joining student societies such as the University of Western Sydney Law Students’ Association.

What is the most interesting thing you’ve done at university this year?
I have been able to participate in a series of moots and workshops. We presented moots for high school students on UWS Day. Also I have been privileged to attend several witness examination and basic advocacy workshops run by Adjunct Professor Sully, who is a retired Justice of the NSW Supreme Court.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?
I am the Publications Officer for the University of Western Sydney Law Students’ Association. This has allowed me to make new friendships and given me the opportunity to participate in a variety of events and activities.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?
No, if anything my experience has only intensified my desire to succeed in becoming a lawyer.

What advice would you give to students at your high school about pursuing university study?
There are endless benefits in obtaining a degree. A couple of years of hard work will translate into more opportunities for success in the long run.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?
It was close to home, the UWS School of Law has a very good reputation, the course structure was very appealing and the scholarship opportunity was too tempting to pass over.

Any other comments or observations about university study?
It’s not as daunting as you first think it is.
Course Information

Bachelor of Business & Commerce/Bachelor of Laws

Where is it held (campus)? Campbelltown

How long is it? 5 years full time

Recommended studies: Law - Advanced English
Business & Commerce – Mathematics and any 2 unit English

Career opportunities: Law examples include: solicitor, barrister, corporate management, education, publishing, finance, banking. The Business & Commerce course provides graduates with an understanding of the spectrum of business operations and with competencies that will enable you to act strategically and independently in your chosen field.

Subjects include: Law: law foundation, criminal law, constitutional law, professional responsibility and legal ethics, commercial law, criminal procedure and evidence. Business & Commerce - after a common first year you can specialise in a key area of study. For students who know which area they would like to specialise in, subjects can be taken from the first semester.

UAI (2009) Law = 90.00
Business & Commerce = 60.10 – 66.70 depending on the course and campus chosen

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. Business & Commerce - this course is a broadly based, multidisciplinary course offering flexibility and choice through a range of 19 different key programs, each of which reflects a particular business discipline. Students may select any key programs offered on their home campus.

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