

SCHOOL GRADUATE STORIES

Name: Amy Borg

Degree: Bachelor of Social Science/Bachelor of Laws

Year of degree: Bachelor of Social Science completed in 2009, withdrew from Bachelor of Laws. Currently doing various Bachelor of Arts units before beginning a Master of Teaching degree in 2011

Campus: Bachelor of Social Science – Bankstown and Penrith

Bachelor of Laws - Campbelltown and Parramatta

High School: Terra Sancta College

Completed Year 12 in: 2006

Is the degree or course structure what you expected?

No. The Bachelor of Social Science is a very flexible degree, with multiple majors and sub-majors to offer. It allows students to tailor their degree to their own individual interests. I studied a major in Sociology and a sub-major in Criminology.

How is university different from school?

University differs from school primarily by workload. The workload at university is much more intense. It is the student's responsibility to attend class, to complete assessment tasks and to complete the required readings. University focuses on independent study and prepares students for the workplace.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?

The subjects I completed in years 11 and 12 assisted greatly in my course as they introduced me to several learning concepts and practices within the social sciences field. Additionally, a focus upon academic referencing greatly prepared me for tertiary education, giving me an advantage and the ability to complete assessments and attain the grades desired from the very first semester.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?

Since commencing study at UWS my biggest achievement has been maintaining high grades and a high grade point average while working two part-time jobs. Additionally, in 2009 I was named on the Dean's Merit List for the Bachelor of Social Science/Bachelor of Laws, placing me in the top 10% of my cohort.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?

Yes, When I began at UWS I was studying a combined degree and my career objective was to become a barrister. After completing the Bachelor of Social Science I decided that the legal pathway was no longer my area of interest. At present I am undertaking studies to become a high school teacher and am very excited about the career opportunities ahead.

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

Just go for it! There is never any harm in applying, if you get the required ATAR lucky you. If not, DO NOT let that discourage you. There are always alternative pathways into university study. Think about the subjects you most enjoy and worry about a career path later. When I left high school I had no idea what it was that I wanted to 'become'. It wasn't until I actually started studying at university that I finally stumbled across my career path.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?

Location played a huge factor in accepting my offer from UWS. I liked that I resided close to two campuses and that I wouldn't have to commute for hours before studying. I also liked the personal learning experience that the University offered, the multiple courses available and the fact that UWS was an emerging university.



Course Information



Bachelor of Social Science/ Bachelor of Laws

Where is it held (campus)?

**Bachelor of Social Science –
Bankstown and Penrith
Bachelor of Laws - Campbelltown and Parramatta**

How long is it?

5 years full time

Recommended studies:

HSC English standard or equivalent.

Career opportunities:

When you graduate after five years, you have two degrees and excellent legal skills relevant to professional employment in the legal field. Many of the UWS Social Sciences programs lead to professional recognition in areas such as: social work, counselling, urban planning, community welfare, policing.

Subjects include:

Introduction to Law, Understanding Society, The Individual in Society, Ethics in the Social Sciences, Professional Responsibility and Legal Ethics, Contemporary Debates in Social Science, Criminal Procedure and Evidence, Organisations, Communities and Communication, Commercial Law and Property Law.

ATAR (2010)

**Campbelltown – 94.70
Parramatta – 90.90**

Additional information:

Understanding what drives modern society is why we study social sciences. This knowledge allows us to make positive and significant changes to at least ourselves, if not the broader community. This is why our Social Science degrees rank among the most exciting and important programs at UWS.

The law component provides you with professional legal skills including the ability to analyse legal material, understand fundamental legal principles, understand the relationship between law and society, and gain general analytical skills for critical thinking and problem solving.

For more information:

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