

SCHOOL GRADUATE STORIES



Name: Christopher Beards

Degree: Bachelor of Psychology

Year of degree: 4th (2011)

Campus: Bankstown

High School: Macquarie Fields High School

Completed Year 12 in: 2007

Scholarships held: Commonwealth Scholarship and Academic Scholarship

Is the degree or course structure what you expected?

I expected Psychology to be challenging, inspiring and that it would help me think more critically and empirically. It is all that I expected.

How is university different from school?

University is very different, in both good and bad ways. It is very difficult but I believe it also helps you become a better manager of time and with your academic ability.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?

My high school helped to develop the foundations of how to study and the mind-set required for all future endeavors. My teachers also spent a lot of their time to help us achieve the best we could in our HSC.

What is the most interesting thing you've done at university so far?

I have done several assignments on the Psychology of Religion and how different images of god (both positive and negative) can lead to differing consequences. I'm currently working on a critical review of a journal article on Adult Attachment, God Attachment and Gender in relation to stress.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?

I have gained scholarships for achieving good grade averages. I have organised and assisted in research. I have also run my own analysis and tested a theory proposed by Jean Piaget.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?

My goals have remained strong and the same. I always wanted to focus on the social sciences and the scientific aspect of the individual. I would gladly apologise to my science teachers for being a bad student, as all I study now is science.

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

I would advise students to learn to organise themselves when it comes to assignments and to develop effective study skills. These skills are some of the keys to success in University. I would also suggest paying attention in English and Maths classes as these are essential for many degrees.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?

I chose to study at UWS because of its proximity to my own residence. I had the choice of going to other universities but in the end I believe that we can all achieve our goals, no matter which university we go to.

Any other comments or observations about university study?

At University you need to be very self-motivated so be prepared. You may feel lazy sometimes but remember that you no longer have no teachers reminding you about assignments and due dates.

Course Information



Bachelor of Psychology

Where is it held (campus)?

Bankstown

How long is it?

4 years full time

Career opportunities:

Examples include: psychology or research positions, industrial and organisational psychology, counselling psychology, vocational psychology, clinical neuropsychology, developmental disability and educational psychology, forensic psychology and sport psychology.

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.

ATAR (2011)

80.95

Additional information:

Completion of an accredited four year program in psychology will lead to provisional registration as a psychologist by the Psychology Board of Australia (AHPRA) and associate membership of the Australian Psychological Society. On completion of a further two years of study the intern psychologist will be eligible for full registration and for membership of the society.

The fourth year of this course, if you meet the requirements, is an Honours program, involving specialised research. Fourth-year students not undertaking the Honours program will study a Specialist Psychology program comprising one core unit in psychological assessment, two electives, research methods, and an empirical research project presented as a thesis.

For more information:

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