Name: Kate Pascolini  
Degree: Bachelor of Arts (Dean’s Scholars)  
Year of degree: 2nd (2011)  
Campus: Penrith  
High School: St Columba’s High School  
Completed Year 12 in: 2009  
Scholarships held: Dean’s Scholarship

Is the degree or course structure what you expected?  
It is a lot better than I expected. I didn’t realise that the course was as flexible as it is or that such a broad variety of topics were available for me to study.

How is university different from school?  
You are very much responsible for your own learning and development and the contact hours, in my degree, are minimal compared to the contact hours at school.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?  
There is a significant overlap in content in some of the units I have studied at university and the subjects I took at school, which has really aided me in having a better grasp on some of the concepts and theories at university. Other skills I learnt at school, like essay writing, were also very beneficial in preparing me for university.

What is the most interesting thing you’ve done at university so far?  
One of my units this semester, Abnormal Psychology, is particularly thrilling. The content is very engaging and interesting. Studying this unit has helped me to decide on the career path I want to pursue.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?  
I’ve generally received good marks in my units and I was on the College of Arts 2010 Merit List.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?  
My career goal has changed several times since starting university, but fortunately, with the degree being so flexible and also providing multiple career opportunities, this has not affected my course structure significantly.

What advice would you give to students at your high school about pursuing university study?  
I think studying at university is very enjoyable and worthwhile. It is a great learning environment and has fostered my academic and moral development. The Bachelor of Arts degree specifically is incredibly flexible, which means you don’t really need a career goal in mind to begin the course.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?  
Apart from being close to home, and also having significant financial aid with the scholarship I received from the university, I find the people at UWS very genuine and friendly. I think the buildings and grounds themselves are very well maintained, providing great facilities for students. The lecturers and tutors are of a high calibre.

More School Graduate Stories at: http://www.uws.edu.au/community/in_the_community/for_schools/school_graduate_stories
Bachelor of Arts

Where is it held (campus)? Penrith

How long is it? 3 years full time

Career opportunities: This degree will equip students for careers in a wide range of areas, depending on which key program they complete. Bachelor of Arts graduates find employment in diverse areas including: communication and media industries; education; psychology and counseling; cultural, political and social policy analysis; writing and publishing. The Bachelor of Arts is a three-year degree designed to provide knowledge and generic skills that form the basis for lifelong learning.

Subjects include: Australia and the World (core unit), Contemporary Society, Texts and Traditions, Analytical Reading and Writing, Behaviour and Environment, Linguistics, Media and Visual Cultures. Major studies include: various languages; Psychology; Religion, Anthropology and Philosophy; History and Political Thought.

ATAR (2011) 90.30 Penrith 90.25 Bankstown

Additional information: The Bachelor of Arts (Dean’s Scholars) will provide you with the opportunity to participate in a tailored mentoring and advanced academic study program. Throughout the degree you will develop superior knowledge and confidence to graduate a step ahead in your career. This degree has been designed to extend your knowledge and understanding of key disciplines within the Bachelor of Arts. Throughout the degree, students are invited to participate in the academic and research life including symposia and academic seminars. Regular meetings with senior leadership staff help you plan your studies and opportunities to explore further advancement at UWS.

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