Name: Erin Coates
Degree: Bachelor of Arts
(Pathway to Teaching Primary)
Year of degree: 2nd (2010)
Campus: Penrith
High School: McCarthy Catholic College

Scholarships held:
UWS Opportunity Scholarship (Equity)

Is the degree or course structure what you expected?
Yes.

How is university different from school?
University is much more self-directed than school and I have found it a much more relaxed environment but you must be sure to be self-disciplined.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?
My high school gave me the opportunity to go the International Science School in 2007 and this introduced me to the world of lectures and independent study.

In my senior years at high school the online forums offered were similar to the content and format of the university's online vUWS site.

What is the most interesting thing you’ve done at university this year?
Having completed an assessment task for the Early Mathematical Thinking unit I undertook, I’ve gained first-hand experience of what my future career as a teacher entails.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?
Being part of the Socrates Mentoring Program (mentoring gifted and talented high school students), receiving a scholarship and being part of the UWS Musical and Film Interest Association.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?
No, but my understanding of what my career involves and where it can take me has expanded.

What advice would you give to students at your high school about pursuing university study?
Make sure you know what you want to do to make best use of your future and be prepared for hard work in your own time.

Why did you choose to study at UWS?
Due to my age and the fact I had not completed year 12 my options for tertiary education were limited to a number of universities. UWS was best for me in terms of locality and it offered the courses I wanted. Also, I didn't see the sense in wasting time travelling when I could be using it as study time.

More School Graduate Stories at: http://www.uws.edu.au/community/in_the_community/for_schools/school_graduate_stories
# Course Information

**Bachelor of Arts (Pathway to Teaching Primary)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where is it held (campus)?</th>
<th>Penrith (Kingswood Campus) and Bankstown</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How long is it?</td>
<td>Three years full time</td>
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<td>Assumed knowledge:</td>
<td>Any two units of English at Band 4, two units of HSC maths.</td>
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<td>Career opportunities?</td>
<td>Areas relevant to the major studies completed include: communication and the media industries, education, entertainment and arts administration, government, cultural and heritage organisations, psychology and counseling, tourism and leisure industries, writing and publishing, teaching.</td>
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<td>Subjects include:</td>
<td>Australia and the World, Contemporary Society, Texts and Traditions, Analytical Reading and Writing, Behaviour and Environment, Psychology, Cultural and Social Analysis, Education Studies.</td>
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<td>ATAR (2010)</td>
<td>Penrith – 70.10 Bankstown – 70.15</td>
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<td>Additional information:</td>
<td>This degree will allow you to focus on a general program of your choice, whilst also completing an Education Studies major, gaining the necessary learning areas to satisfy the NSW Institute of Teachers discipline knowledge requirements for entry into further studies in teaching.</td>
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<td>For more information:</td>
<td>visit the UWS website course information at <a href="http://future.uws.edu.au/">http://future.uws.edu.au/</a></td>
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