Name: Kate French  
Degree: Bachelor of Business & Commerce/Bachelor of Laws  
Year of degree: 2nd (2013)  
Campus: Campbelltown  
High School: Camden High School  
Completed Year 12 in: 2011  
Scholarships held: Academic Excellence, member of the UWS Aspire Future Leaders Program

Is the degree or course structure what you expected?  
There are things that I expected such as the subjects increasing in difficulty as the course progresses and the immense amount of reading for law subjects. However, law is nowhere near as dry as I thought it would be and accordingly, I have fallen in love with it.

How is university different from school?  
In university you have to be more self-motivated in comparison to school where the teacher has smaller classes and more time to assist individuals.

How did high school help you in preparing for university?  
My high school focused a lot on preparing students for the next chapters of their lives. Because they showed faith in me and encouraged me, I began to have faith in myself and believe I was capable of pursuing a law degree. Nurturing a positive outlook was crucial in assisting me in my journey to university and in life.

What is the most interesting thing you’ve done at university so far?  
I love that at UWS we get the opportunity to do oral presentations such as bail applications to prepare us for post-university. They are nerve-wracking but very interesting as you learn about your capabilities and the law beyond textbooks. University camps like the Law and Aspire Leadership camps are interesting in so many ways.

What are some of your achievements since you started university?  
I am the First Year Coordinator and member of the Law Students’ Association. I work as a paralegal in an intellectual property law firm in Sydney. I’ve achieved grades I thought were beyond my abilities and met my best friends. Participating in the Aspire program has definitely been a major achievement.

Have your career aspirations changed since you began studying?  
When I began my degree I was aspiring to become the manager of a business. I am now focusing on becoming a solicitor and who knows from there!

What advice would you give to students at your high school about pursuing university study?  
Follow your heart and your intuition – don’t go to university if your passion isn’t there. Get involved in everything you can. Apply for everything! Go beyond your limits because university nurtures prosperity and dreams. Make the most of it!

Why did you choose to study at UWS?  
Location, opportunities and incentive. The Most Outstanding Year 11 Student Award I received at school was a great incentive. As well as being very local to where I live UWS offers opportunities such as the Aspire program.

Any other comments or observations about university study?  
After school, life begins. If your next step is university you will meet people very similar to yourself. University allows you to be your own person, to choose when you have classes and when you study. There is such a broad range of people studying at university that it opens your eyes to the world and values beyond your own local area.

More School Graduate Stories can be seen at:  
http://www.uws.edu.au/community/in_the_community/for_schools/school_graduate_stories
Bachelor of Business & Commerce/
Bachelor of Laws

Where is it held (campus)?       Campbelltown and Parramatta

How long is it?                  5 years full time

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.

ATAR (2013)                     90.00 – Campbelltown, 90.10 - Parramatta

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/