

Brooke Treadwell – USQ Head Start – ‘Responsible Nursing Practice’

*Taking part in the USQ Head Start program was the best decision I made in 2016. I already had an idea of going into nursing when I leave school but I wasn't sure if it really was for me and most importantly, was University for me? There would be nothing worse than starting full-time University after you graduate only to find that those extra years of study really aren't for you. Luckily for me, as soon as I started my 'free' subject, I knew I was where I was supposed to be. I have met some real genuine friends who I share interests with, who have made me feel welcome and made great study buddies. Although I enjoyed it, it wasn't an easy road. Assessment is much harder and their expectations are higher so don't think for a second it is an easy way out. It is a relief though to know I now have a place in nursing next year at USQ and I am looking forward to it. If you are wanting to go to University when you finish school, really consider participating in Head Start.*



Lucinda Panitz – USQ Head Start – ‘The Arts Curriculum and Pedagogy’

*During my first semester of Year 12 I had the privilege of taking part in the USQ Head Start program, studying the Arts Curriculum and Pedagogy course. I studied online and completed modules and tutorials with other students and lecturers weekly. I was able to contact my course supervisors and other students on a regular basis and they provided advice and guidance.*

*Even though I studied online, I was still able to attend the Toowoomba campus making use of the facilities such as the library as well as meeting other university students. This gave me a great insight into what life is like at USQ. I found it a little difficult to juggle both University work and school work but the USQ staff were extremely understanding and helpful. This course has given me the chance to be more self-directed in my study habits and I'm now finding it a lot easier to sit down and focus on my school work at home.*

*This course has allowed me to further develop my plans for not only university but for the future. Giving me a greater understanding of both the course I want to study and the university I want to attend. I would strongly recommend Head Start to any student considering going to university as it is a great program which allowed me to take part in a course, I wasn't sure about, free of charge! Although I now know I won't be going into education as a career, this course was extremely helpful in making that decision.*

Jasmine Rossington – USQ Head Start – 'The Fundamentals of Media'

*Head Start at the University of Southern Queensland was an extremely eye-opening experience. Year 12 is the time when you're supposed have your future figured out. This was particularly stressful for me considering I had no idea if I actually wanted to go to university or what I would study if I did. One of my favourite subjects at school was Film and Television and New Media, so from the wide range of courses offered by USQ in the Head Start program, I chose to study 'The Fundamentals of Media'. During the semester of study, I learnt many things. A balance of theory and practical workshops assisted in my studies of Film and Television at school and also gave me an insight into what life at University would actually be like. By the end of the course, I had improved my mark in Film at school and decided that I did in fact want to go to University after I graduate. If I didn't participate in the Head Start program, I would probably still be completely clueless about what to do with my future.*

