Samantha Dawson,

Bachelor of Outreach and Community Education

La Trobe University

My name is Samantha Dawson, and I’m taking the Bachelor of Outreach and Community Education course at La Trobe. I chose the Bachelor of Outreach and Community Education course because it wasn’t just a normal teaching course for primary and secondary, it looks a lot more at students with learning difficulties, or maybe disengaged youth or people from different socio economic or cultural backgrounds. It really seemed to delve more into, you know, kids who need just that extra little bit of attention.

What really inspired me to study a teaching course was I guess the inspiring teachers that I had and the ones that still, ten years later, the things that they’ve said to me or, you know the way that they conducted themselves in the classroom. The way that’s left an impression on me and my adult life, that’s really driven me, or steered me towards this particular course. But I think it is important that every child has somebody to look up to and can be inspired by, and hopefully I can do that.

I chose La Trobe because they had the course that ticked all the boxes for me. It ticked a course that allowed me to interact with people, to help people learn, to keep learning myself, to not just be a teacher at any other university. I mean I could’ve, I live five minutes away from another university but want to travel to Bundoora because they offer the course that is right for me.

My advice to future students is give it a go. I was really, really scared and apprehensive about starting a course that I wasn’t sure about, but you have a plethora of options once you get here. Once you’re here you can change, you can speak to all of the course administrators they’re so helpful, just try it, just do it. Because once you find what you want, it’s exciting, it’s really exciting to be here.