Oleanna's Story

A University Partner Success Story

Tell us about yourself

My name is Oleanna Mariz M. San Antonio. I am a 17-year-old Filipino and I am currently studying the Fast Track course Foundation Studies programme online at UP Education.

How long have you been in the online program?

I've been enrolled in the online programme since 13th of July 2020.

Why did you choose the Fast Track Foundation Studies programme online at Victoria University of Wellington?

I chose the program because it offers a great steppingstone for me to be introduced into the world of English and assist me in pursuing my future university studies. I really wanted to attend university in New Zealand, however my academic background still needed strengthening before I was qualified. Therefore, the Fast Track Foundation Studies program was an ideal choice for me as it allows me to attend university within the planned time frame once the borders open.

Why did you choose to pursue your studies with Victoria University of Wellington online?

Before enrolling with University of Wellington, I initially attended an online demonstration class delivered by UP Education to students all over the world. I have observed the fast-paced but adaptable environment of the classes and the convenience of having to study online. I decided to pursue my studies with Victoria University of Wellington Foundation online because of the flexibility of the classes and the high standard of teaching they offer.

Student Profile

STUDENT NAME
Oleanna Mariz

NATIONALITY
Filipino

PROGRAMME
Victoria University of Wellington Certificate in Foundation Studies (Fast Track), July 2020

UNIVERSITY DESTINATION
Victoria University of Wellington Bachelors Degree

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How has your online experience been so far?

I found my online studies very convenient and super fun. My live classes are not very late and not very early in the morning, so I did not find it hard to adjust my body clock in line with my timetable. I find online learning fun because I am able to study just as well as in a classroom while at home – with activities such as participating in class, group works, etc. – and my teachers create a helping community between us offshore students..

How are you finding the learning experience with your teachers in the online environment?

I found it very easy to contact my teachers with any concerns and questions I have for certain topics or tasks we have each week. I am grateful that my teachers provide us with tasks we can handle yet challenging enough for us to grow and learn. The teachers are so lovely and always available to us in case we are having trouble understanding the tasks on our own or even for a quick chat.

Can you describe your everyday schedule for us?

I usually wake up around 8-9 am on weekdays before my classes. My live classes start at 10 am which gives me plenty of time to catch up on tasks or recorded classes given in the subjects I have before the lesson. I prefer to do my tasks early so that I could have more time to do homework in the afternoon and have more free time in the evening. After my classes, which usually end around 1 pm, I finish my remaining tasks and have the rest of the day for myself.

What systems/applications do you use every day? Are they easy to use?

I use Microsoft Teams, Blackboard, Outlook, and Education Perfect every day. I use Microsoft Teams for live classes and for chatting with my teachers. I use Blackboard and Outlook for checking my teachers' announcements. Lastly, I use Education Perfect for online exercises that my teachers give related to our lessons. These are very easy to navigate because they are very student-friendly and I do not have a hard time using them since they are very simple and compatible with all of my devices – such as my laptop, iPad, or phone.

What are the benefits that you noticed about studying online?

I noticed that the most prominent benefits of studying online would be the flexibility and the ability to be able to manage time wisely. Studying online gave me the opportunity to learn at my own pace while being able to manage how I would handle my tasks well and maximize my work time to construct a study plan.

If you have any advice for other students who also want to study online, what would it be?

My advice to students who also want to study online is to see if it fits your interest and goals and to do it if you think it would give you a great opportunity to become fully-equipped before university life. It may seem hard to handle at first, however, it is very easy to adapt to and manage especially when you have teachers who support you in your learning and motivate you to create better output and attain a greater understanding of your subjects that will help you in preparing for university studies. .

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