

THE STUDENT BLOG



THINKING ABOUT
UNI?



IRTIZA



Teesside
University



UNIVERSITY:

TEESSIDE UNIVERSITY

COURSE:

**MASTER OF PUBLIC
HEALTH (APPLIED)**

**FAVOURITE SCHOOL
SUBJECT:**

ENGLISH

HOBBY:

WATCHING FOOTBALL

**HOW DID YOU KNOW UNIVERSITY
AND HIGHER EDUCATION WAS THE
RIGHT NEXT STEP FOR YOU?
WHAT MADE YOU REALISE YOU
WANTED OR NEEDED TO GO?**



Growing up, I always heard stories about university life from my elder brother, who studied architecture. He was actively involved in debating competitions and dramatic performances, and I would often accompany him to his university, where I had the chance to explore different departments, attend events, and experience campus life firsthand. Those visits made university seem exciting and full of opportunities beyond academics, and from an early age I knew I wanted to pursue higher education. I later completed my undergraduate degree in Microbiology, and after gaining professional experience, I decided to continue my academic journey by studying a Master of Public Health to further develop my knowledge and skills.

**WHAT HELPED YOU FEEL MORE
CONFIDENT ABOUT APPLYING – WAS IT
A PERSON, AN EVENT, RESEARCH, A
SCHOOL VISIT, OR SOMETHING ELSE?**



I think what helped me most was seeing people around me successfully navigate university and build careers from it. By the time I was applying, university no longer felt like something distant or unfamiliar. I had met students from different disciplines, heard about their experiences, and seen how higher education opened doors to opportunities both academically and professionally. That made the process feel much less intimidating and helped me feel confident that I could succeed there as well.

WERE YOUR EXPECTATIONS OF UNI DIFFERENT TO WHAT YOU EXPERIENCED ONCE YOU GOT THERE?



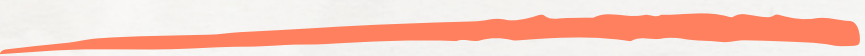
Before starting university, I expected it to be about academics and, hopefully, an opportunity to get involved in dramatics, as I had always been inspired by my brother's experiences in university theatre. While both became an important part of my journey, the experience exceeded my expectations. I made lifelong friends, participated in co-curricular activities, and joined academic tours that broadened my perspective. In my final year, I became a research team member on a COVID 19 vaccine and testing project. I was also elected President of the Dramatics Club and Secretary of the Seniors Club, developing valuable leadership and communication skills.

WHAT'S ONE PIECE OF ADVICE * YOU WOULD GIVE TO SOMEONE WHO'S NOT SURE WHETHER UNI IS RIGHT FOR THEM?



My advice would be not to think of university only as a place to earn a degree. It is also an opportunity to discover new interests, meet people from different backgrounds, build lifelong friendships, and develop skills that can shape your future. Before deciding, speak to current students, attend open days, and explore programmes such as NERAP, which provide valuable support and help you better understand higher education. Even if you're unsure about your career path, university can help you grow both personally and professionally, and the experiences you gain outside the classroom can be just as valuable as your studies.

THE STUDENT BLOG



TELL US IN THE
COMMENTS WHAT TOPICS
YOU'D LIKE OUR
PARTNERSHIP ASSOCIATES
TO COVER!

