

Hannah 0:00

So I'm my name is Hannah and I study in LCC, majoring in public relations post-grad courses, and I came from Taiwan, which is a very small country. Why I came to UAL it's because I know that it's a very prestigious art school. And I love people have been like creative and innovative. Like I love people being open minded. And I love London. So, yeah, I think that UAL can satisfy and meet all these requirements. So that's one here. And of course our chancellor Grayson Perry, he's, he's cool. Yeah, I just saw him there was like, oh my god, I have to be in school, like he's phenomenal and I think that the students under this school can be like, also creative and like interesting too.

Academic Support 0:46

Did you have any sort of things that made you sort of nervous and excited studying that UAL? Give me some examples of those.

Hannah 0:54

I think the biggest... the thing I have to cope with is the language thing because when I was back in my country my English abilities were like above others and I passed the IELTS which is the test that you have to take if your first language is not English, to study here. And I'm kind of like, think my English is like good enough to cope with that. But when I came here I was like, no your English is not fine with those because there are so many accents and people from my classmates are from like different countries. It's not just the country from your geography textbook, it is like the culture you have to like face with, you have to deal with culture shock for example. I only experienced this culture shock for like two months and then after that I was I okay.

Academic Support 1:40

How did you overcome that?

Hannah 1:41

You just get used to it. You have to try to understand what your teacher is talking about. You just like grow. Yeah, you grow up with within this, all these things. I think one of the perks of UAL is like students are very open minded. So, I think like, lots of my classmates even if they're from like different countries, they're super open minded and creative. So they're being friendly, so that makes me feel less nervous. I also register for some Academic Support classes like the workshop, the conversational... like cross cultural... conversational classes.

Academic Support 2:17

How have you found that? I mean, is it very beneficial? Would you say you would recommend this to other students?

Hannah 2:22

Yeah, totally. To be honest, it's free. And you have like professional teachers here to guide you. And it's like small classes. So everybody's got chances to talk and you don't have to worry about somebody will judge you because our English is very bad, but I think it's very good. Just get the most use of it.

Academic Support 2:42

The course that you're obviously doing, have you had any experience in studying individually or in groups or even collaboratively?

Hannah 2:48

Yes, actually, in the previous term, we kind of have a collaborative project with LCF. It's talking about fashion, because I'm studying PR [Public Relations] and LCF, they have a like fashion business school and they're holding a like event called Fashion Is Business. It's basically you want to recruit like the students, and to attract students to study in fashion business school. So, we kind of like serve as a PR team to give them suggestions about how to promote this event. And I really learned a lot from this. I work with my colleagues in the same course, I think the teamwork really makes me learn a lot, because we have to do our best. And we are kind of like the image of the PR course, so we have to do our best to .. to impress the LCF. And it's cool, like you have to, it's kind of like you have to go out your comfort zone that you're not just stick to your own class, but you have to put yourself out and trying to interact with other students and other teachers from other schools.

Academic Support 3:55

And how was that?

Hannah 3:56

I think it's brilliant. Well, even though I'm sometimes feel a little bit stressful because we're going to have the presentation. And the presentation today, I was like, I had a nightmare yesterday because I'm afraid... I just dream up like, I've been stammered and I can't speak anything. But it turns out to be real well because to be honest, my colleagues are really helpful. I think three of them are four of them are native speakers, and they're just trying to like encourage me not to be afraid of that. And they helped like me prepare for this. So I think it's really good.

Academic Support 4:24

When it comes... because you do a lot of assessments, don't you as well? You do a lot of peer assessments, group assessments. How do you feel about that? And how do you think it benefits you?

Hannah 4:33

I think, just like the teamwork because, well, it's in school like nobody, everybody's friendly, but you have to prepare yourself for going to have a job or going to prepare for your career. Because if you're having a job after you graduate, you have to face more like colleagues, and they are personal....probably there are some some people are nice, but some people are really like mean or something, but you just have to get used to it. I think in UAL, in my course, from the teamwork, I learned a lot. But, for example, like presentation skills and you have to communicate with your colleagues or with your clients and I think really, really helpful. It's kind of like a real society, you will face, but it's only in school.

Academic Support 5:21

Great, and in terms of diversity inclusivity, how has that played a role at UAL?

Hannah 5:28

Well, I think it's ... because you know, like Asian countries, there are not so many people who are so open minded. Some people are really traditional. And for example, like because my hair is purple and back in my country, like the people will... oh, you're a bad girl or you're not well behaved because they're sometimes narrow minded. But when I came to UAL, I was like, I can just be myself because everybody is like this. You won't feel weird and London is very open minded. So nobody will judge you because of that. Sometimes I go to Central Saint Martins to study and everybody here was... they're artists and their dress things, and they're just being their self. So, that makes me feel more confident. Yeah, just you don't have to worry about what others think of you, just like be yourself.

Hannah 6:18

Because I'm international student, the school it's very nice for us to not feel that homesick. For example, like, they have a Food Fair, which like display the cuisine from different countries and they're happy to see Taiwan stand to be here. And well, I think it's very cool because every student should understand what different cultures are about. Probably because my country is very small, so lots of people don't know that much about my country, but through this kind of event, people can interact and know more about it.

Academic Support 6:48

What do you wish you had known about learning and studying to prepare you better or to tune in?

Hannah 6:55

Well I think the students if they wanted to study abroad, and generally, they have to prepare themselves... they think London it's fun... it's good to live in. But it's not just being a tourist in London, you have to live in London. So, you have to prepare yourself for facing lots of difficulties... not difficulties, but there are lots of realities you have to face with. But I think studying at UAL, because you have lots of chances to meet, because we have so many like different departments and majors, so you have to prepare yourself to being an open minded person. Because there are so many suggestions and people you have to ...you just have to make friend or be nice with.

Academic Support 7:36

I know on your course you do a lot of research, what does it mean to you... research and how easy is it or how would you prepare yourself or inform any student who was to come here, about research?

Hannah 7:50

Well, to be honest, because in my bachelor degree, I didn't do that much of... that much of research ...and I didn't have to have the dissertation when I graduate. So it's kind of like a new world to me. I think the research that means you have to read lots of books and trying to find... I think one of the most difficult ones to find a valid information. You cannot just Google and find a website and it's like, oh it's research... you have to find the books and find the like... feasible information and data to make your research more... convincable... convincing, sorry.

Academic Support 8:33

And of course, time management is quite essential. How did you manage your time at UAL?

Hannah 8:40

Yeah, time management is very important. I'm like still learning. You just have to pay more attention on your studies. And if you have time you can join some society but I just think that most important things don't let the society thing to dominate all your time because you're here. Your job right now is student, even though you can have like extra curricular activities, but just don't make it take too much time of it.

Academic Support 9:07

And how good experiences have you had in session or tutorial and why? So there's been any sessions or tutorials that you've had good experience and explain why...why they were good?

Hannah 9:19

I think tutorials, it's kind of like very important because sometimes in during the class, you're too embarrassed to ask questions, for example you think, it's too stupid. But through the tutorials, you can just talk very openly and just share what you think. And you can tell the lecturers what you're facing, for example, like difficulties or like the challenges. I think because .... one of the reason I think the lecturers are all very nice, you don't have to worry about they will judge you because you're a stupid... like stupid questions or something. They will do their best to help you.

Academic Support 9:57

That's good. And if you were to tell your mini-me, right before you started UAL, what sort of advice would you give your mini-me, back then about your life at university?

Hannah 10:09

Well I will tell myself to, well, to make the most of your time and make the most of your time in UAL and in London and just join more like workshops and have more ... just trying to find more chances to work with other colleagues in different schools and just enjoy it because I think you will. Yeah, I've never regret of like going to UAL.

Academic Support 10:38

And what would you avoid?

Hannah 10:40

Can I speak frankly?

Academic Support 10:41

Yeah, go on.

Hannah 10:42

Sleep that much. Yeah, well, I sleep a lot but I... it's kind of like... it's still a time management thing. Because sometimes I sleep late, probably have a dissertation with like assessment tomorrow. I will like...wow, still sleep. Yeah. Trying to like make the best of your time management.

Academic Support 11:00

So you've done your dissertation?

Hannah 11:02

Just working, like proposal.

Academic Support 11:04

How are you managing your time on that?

Hannah 11:06

Well, to be honest, like, this is the best time management I have. Because like, I think dissertation is the most important, like the major project that can decide whether you can graduate from UAL or not. So I spend lots of time and doing the research and talking to the teachers and the class. And actually, we have like a dissertation proposal poster day, which we can share ideas on the poster. And I think six or seven of our lecturers just came to talk to us, like one-on-one, really clarified my mind because I'm kind of like in the dungeon of my mind powers before but after talking to them, I think it's very helpful.

Academic Support 11:44

Do you ever get peers reviewing your work at a time like this or the previous projects and how have you felt about that? The peer group review or assessment?

Hannah 11:54

Well, I think that gives me more insights of what I'm doing. We don't have like a formal like peer review, but sometimes I will like discuss about assessments or dissertation with my peers or colleagues. I think their ideas are really cool because sometimes you're just like so stuck into your own idea but because they're the outsider, they give you some really bright idea of what you can do. I think they're really helpful. Just talk to your colleagues and they're really nice.

Academic Support 12:23

Okay, thank you very much, Hannah. And thank you for your feedback.

Hannah 12:27

Thanks a lot.