

Cynthia Velasco-Chua

Country: Philippines

Course: Diploma of Digital Media

Institute: TAFE NSW - Western Sydney Institute



Cynthia Velasco-Chua describes 2007 completing her Diploma of Digital Media at TAFE NSW - Western Sydney Institute, as a kind of rollercoaster ride. "I felt awed and amazed. It's really a hands-on type of learning. I never imagined in one year I would be able to animate, create graphics and web design. I even got to make a radio ad and a short film," she says.

Cynthia selected TAFE NSW - Western Sydney Institute because it is close to relatives and offers state-of-the-art facilities and a high level of support services for international students.

"It was one of my dreams to come to Australia, It took a while before I felt settled because it was my first time living away from my family," she says.

Cynthia chose the Diploma of Digital Media to improve her career opportunities. She credits her teachers and class mates for helping her overcome any initial adjustment difficulties. She has made friends from all over the world and is now ready to "face whatever life has to offer."

TAFE NSW - Western Sydney Institute includes seven colleges and offers students a chance to live in a multicultural community with excellent local shopping centres and cinemas, public libraries, universities, and wide range of sporting and recreational facilities linked by motorways, public rail and bus transport.

Sydney is a great study destination for international students. Voted the world's best city for its beautiful landscape, climate, friendly people, affordable accommodation, and quality education and training, it ranks as one of the top three global cities for employment and business opportunities, alongside London and New York (Anholts City Brand Index 2007 and 2008, and Conde Nast Traveler Magazine 2007). One in ten Australians live in the western Sydney metropolitan area and it is the third largest economic region in Australia.

Cynthia encourages students from the Philippines to study at TAFE NSW as "an opportunity of a lifetime. TAFE NSW will help you broaden your horizon on what you can achieve as a student, as well as when you become professional in your field of study," she said.

Cynthia hopes to remain in Australia and find a full-time job in graphic design. "I'll be going back to TAFE NSW in the future to learn more. I believe that TAFE NSW is the key to unlocking the door of my dream profession."