

Lynette Wong

Country: Philippines

Course: Diploma of Hospitality Management (including Commercial Cookery)

Institute: TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute, Ultimo College



Lynette Wong completed a bachelor degree in marketing in Philippines before she came to Sydney. She is currently enrolled in the Diploma of Hospitality Management (including Commercial Cookery) at TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute, Ultimo College, in the centre of the city.

“I wanted to gain an Australian education because I felt it would give me a better experience to develop myself. I researched the institutions in Australia really thoroughly before I chose TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute. I was very keen to get a quality education and good value for money. I definitely made the right choice.”

Lynette recently won awards for her hospitality skills in a 2007 Sydney Institute competition judged by industry experts.

“I couldn’t believe it when I won the awards – my family are so proud of me. The awards have really given me confidence and motivated me – it’s my stepping stone for success.”

“The best thing about TAFE NSW is the teachers. They really have a lot of experience in the hospitality industry so they teach us what we really need to know. When I’m with the teachers, I know I’m talking to someone who has really ‘been there’. When you learn at TAFE, it’s very practical and that helps us to understand. You’re not just reading about your subject, you’re experiencing it.”

The TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute training restaurant is called The Apprentice. It is open to the public Monday to Friday for lunch and dinner and offers a 5-star, 4-course silver service dining experience. Students are trained in all aspects of food and beverage preparation and service so they devise the menu, prepare meals and serve paying customers, and are monitored by teachers with professional experience in Australian and international restaurants and hotels.

“I work part-time as a chef in a busy Darling Harbour restaurant. It’s hard work but I really love the people I’m working with. My training at TAFE NSW is great preparation for my job - I’m applying all the things I learn in the training restaurant to my workplace.”

“I was really nervous when I first started my course but TAFE NSW has encouraged me to grow and boosted my self-confidence. Now my dream is to climb the career ladder and work for a prestigious company either here or back in Philippines. I’m sure I will reach my goals.”