

Manuela Santos

Country: Colombia

Course: Certificate 3 in Commercial Cookery

Institute: TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute



Food is an essential part of Colombian culture according to Manuela Santos who is currently studying a Certificate 3 in Commercial Cookery at TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute. “I’ve always wanted to learn how to cook and I thought now would be the best time to do it,” she said.

Manuela heard about TAFE NSW’s reputation from family and friends in Colombia. She was impressed with the amazing facilities, including the teaching restaurants and commercial kitchens.

TAFE NSW Institutes are the largest education and training provider in Australia and offer over 1,200 practical, work-oriented training courses in over 130 campus locations in Sydney and New South Wales. South American students can also study at one of seven English Language Centres in Sydney and NSW.

TAFE NSW offers students a unique Australian study experience as well as Diploma-to-Degree study options ranging from six months to three years in areas such as business, marketing, children’s services, hospitality management, tourism, fashion, education and design.

Manuela has found her teachers “very helpful” and willing to assist students new to the hospitality area. TAFE NSW has professional accredited teachers who have industry experience, class sizes are small with an average 1:15 teacher-student ratio.

“The language has been one of the biggest challenges about studying in Australia,” she said adding that at least the love of food is shared by people from all over the world.

Manuela hopes to open her own restaurant when she finishes her TAFE NSW course.