

## Richard Nguyen

**Country:** Vietnam

**Course:** Certificate 3 in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery)

**Institute:** TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute, Ultimo College



Richard Nguyen arrived in Australia from Vietnam in 2005 when he was 15 years old and attended Randwick Boys High School. Richard's school career adviser suggested he enrol at TAFE NSW because of the high quality learning outcomes.

"I was always interested in hands-on, practical learning and I thought that TAFE NSW would be a good transition to help advance my career."

Richard commenced the Certificate 3 in Hospitality (Commercial Cookery) course at TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute, Ultimo College, straight after high school.

"I had a lifelong goal to become a chef and open my own restaurant. I hoped that by coming to Australia and studying at TAFE NSW this dream would be possible to achieve."

Richard was very pleased with the facilities for his course at TAFE NSW – Sydney Institute, Ultimo College which included the campus training restaurant The Apprentice. This silver-service restaurant is open to the public and operated by students under the guidance of their teachers.

He was very surprised at the great equipment available, the excellent facilities and the amazing location.

"All of my teachers were friendly and answered all my questions no matter how silly they may have seemed."

When Richard first arrived in Australia, communicating was definitely a challenge. He found it difficult to speak in English all the time, but at TAFE NSW there were many services available for students trying to improve their English language skills.

"I made many multicultural friends, all of whom spoke English, and we helped each other improve our communication and conversation skills."

Richard believes that TAFE NSW has provided him with many of the skills needed to open a restaurant.

"The teachers were amazing and have taught me so much...I know that one day I will have my own restaurant."

Richard continued his studies in hospitality management at university and plans to open an Asian, Australian and western fusion restaurant.