

JOSEPH ALVAREZ

MEDICAL RADIATION SCIENCE/MEDICAL IMAGING SCIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA/UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Senior School Subjects

- Year 11: English, Biology, Religion and Society, Mathematical Methods, History, Physics
- Year 12: English, Biology, Mathematical Methods, History, Politics.

Why did you choose these subjects? I chose subjects that I enjoyed (History and Politics), so I could do well in them and in turn hopefully get good grades. I chose Biology to help with a potential future career in healthcare.

What resources did you use to choose subjects? Mainly teachers and my parents.

What was your course like? Pretty challenging and tough if you're working part-time during university. It was a four-year course, with the last two years basically working full-time at hospitals and clinics around the state. That said, you do plenty of practical work and it's really enjoyable if you'd like to work with patients and other health professionals.

What were some of the best parts of your course? I enjoyed the contact hours at the hospitals and feeling like you were already working in the field. The pathology and anatomy subjects with the cadavers were also interesting.

How did the subjects at school prepare you for your course? Year 12 prepared me for the workload, especially when you're working part-time through the year. Biology was extremely helpful with the physiology subjects at university. My one regret was not doing Physics in Year 12, which would have helped immensely.

What are you doing now in your graduate position? I am currently working as an MRI Technologist/Radiographer in Adelaide/Whyalla.

What do you enjoy about your job? I enjoy:

- Working at a variety of hospitals and clinics.
- Plenty of interactions with patients and doctors give you a really good feeling when you help to diagnose a clients condition/injury.
- Plenty of travelling between regional and city hospitals. The on-call rates and travel allowances are very good, so if you're willing to work you can earn quite a bit of cash straight out of university.
- The main thing I enjoy though is teaching university students, as you get quite a few during work.

Course information: Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science, University of South Australia, <http://bit.ly/1JodVmJ>