

JOSEPHINE WAIN

FOOD TECHNOLOGY TEACHING

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY

Senior School Subjects

- Year 11: English Language, Mathematical Methods, Food Studies, Accounting, Legal Studies, Religion and Society.
- Year 12: English, Further Mathematics, Food Studies, Legal Studies, Accounting

Why did you choose these subjects? In order for me to do my best in Year 11 and 12 I chose subjects I enjoyed. I like maths so I did Accounting and Year 11 Mathematical Methods in Year 10, and then continued maths through to Year 12. I didn't need Mathematical Methods as a prerequisite for my course so I decided to do Further Mathematics in Year 12 which allowed me to do something I like without all the pressure of Methods. I chose to do Food Studies as I love cooking and food, however I didn't want to do hospitality and go down the hospitality industry path.

What resources did you use to choose subjects? The main resource I used was my mum, who helped me, along with the Senior Course Guide and my teachers, decide what subjects would be right for me to undertake in senior school.

What is your course like? My course (Bachelor of Education P-12 (Food Technology), Victoria University) is really good. It is a 4 year course that involves a range of practical placements in both primary and secondary school, where I observe, learn and teach different ages and classes. I have tutorials at university where I learn about all elements of being a teacher in both primary and secondary schools. Within the course there is a wide range of subjects in which you can specialise in, I chose Food Technology, which allows me to teach food technology/food studies and hospitality in secondary schools.

What do you love about your course? My favourite part of my course is placement. Although I enjoy learning about teaching in the classroom, I love going on placement. I have had placements where I go with my class from uni and placements closer to home where I teach and learn about teaching hands-on in the classroom.

Give students an example of a 'day in the life' of your course? A typical day at uni for me involves a 2 hour tutorial for my core education class where I learn about how to be a teacher, through talking about readings, class discussions, assessments and collaborative group work. A typical week involves 1 day where I am at placement at the same school every week, and then go to uni 2-3 days (depending on the semester timetable) where I have 4 subjects, which are a mix of core education subjects and specialisation subjects.

What have been some of the highlights of your course so far? A highlight of my course has been doing a placement at a secondary school, where I learnt so much about being a food teacher by teaching Food Technology. I also enjoyed running the university restaurant as part of my home economics course. As well, another highlight of my course is meeting new people who all have the passion for teaching and food.

How did your senior school subjects prepare you for your course?

- **Mathematics:** For the education side of my course maths was really helpful; in order to be a good teacher you need to know how to do maths so it was essential that I did maths in senior school.
- **Food Studies:** The food side of my course - it was really helpful that I did Food Studies as it gave me a large knowledge of food, cooking and how to cook. However, I would have been more prepared for my course if I had done VET Hospitality.

What advice can you offer students considering studying the course ? If you are considering studying education, attend the university open days and talk to the people about what subjects they offer and what you can specialise in. You don't need to pick what you specialise in in the first year, so you can decide later on in the course if you want to pursue primary or secondary teaching and what subjects you want to teach. Go and see the university, not necessarily on open day but any day, and walk around the campus. See the library and cafés and get a feel for the place, what the parking is like, where the train station is. It can be a big adjustment moving from the country to the city.

What are your future career goals? My future career goal is to become a Food Technology/Food Studies teacher in a secondary school.

Course information: Bachelor of Education (P-12) (Food Technology), Victoria University,
<http://bit.ly/1SeV1sg>