

JACQUELINE TOOLEY

COMMUNICATIONS (THEATRE STUDIES)

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME



Senior School Subjects

- Year 11: Literature, Music, Politics, Text and Traditions
- Year 12: Literature, Music, History, Politics

Why did you choose these subjects? I chose these subjects mainly because I enjoyed them and other subjects like French and Drama that I wanted to do weren't running or clashed with music. Music was the only prerequisite subject that I needed for university at the time.

What resources did you use to choose subjects? I knew what I enjoyed doing and what I was good at and went with those.

What was your course like? My course was a backup course, as I applied for music at places like the Sydney Conservatorium but didn't get in. I really enjoyed my time at university - Notre Dame is much smaller than places like the University of Sydney, so it wasn't too overwhelming for me having come from a relatively small town. Our classes were very small which meant you could really talk to your lecturers and tutors, and you got to know almost everyone in your course really well. While there, I received a scholarship to do a semester abroad in the USA, which rounded off my studies and expanded my thoughts and ideas. It also meant I could do work experience on Broadway in New York City!

What did you love about your course? The favourite part of my course (apart from the exchange program) was my Theatre Studies major. The theatre department was pretty small so you were with the same group of people for the whole three years. It was so practical so we were always directing plays, writing productions, performing in them, designing the lighting, the sound and costumes - everything! We got to create in our own way.

How did the subjects at school prepare you for your university course? The subjects I did at school didn't really prepare me for my course at university because the research and learning at university is so different. I found university to be a completely different learning system than what school prepares you for - which is not a bad thing.

Tell us about your graduate positions: I have worked at Melba Recordings in Melbourne and as a Box Office Systems Supervisor for the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. At the moment I'm living in London working at the West End Theatre whilst juggling acting jobs (I got to do a days work last year on a film with Meryl Streep and Hugh Grant) and I'm starting my own production company with an old peer. After university I auditioned for all the drama schools in Australia but didn't get into any so I decided to come to London after working in arts administration for a few years to save. At the moment I don't know what I'm going to do once my Visa is up but that is kind of exciting.