

Learning in the Workplace - Student Examples- Transcript

<https://www.vu.edu.au/higher-ed-and-tafe/arts-education-and-human-development/industry-and-community-placements>

Eleanor Hadley

I did my third year placement at an organisation called Westside Circus which is a community arts organisation. Through my placement I was working with three to five year old kids in a community development setting but also for the focus on story-telling, book making and circus which is something that really, really interests me in terms of my experience with International Community Development as the course I have done and my personal interest in the creative arts and the impact that that can have on development. I kind of started realising that that was what I wanted to do and I've decided to do post-grad studies in Early Childhood Education as a way to kind of mix the two together. So I think for me my learning in the workplace has helped me a lot in choosing what career path I want to take. Where did you do yours?

Lynsey Ward

I did mine with an organisation that I worked with through second year and third year at university called the Cambodian Kids Foundation and I had the opportunity to go over to Cambodia and work with them on a sanitation project which was awesome. And it was a research project it was really, really good to learn how to sort-of implement research theory in practise in a really, really difficult situation which I didn't think would be as difficult as it was. That was a really, really good learning experience for me because I got to adapt my research style.

Linda Allen

In social work we do two placements and they're seventy days each so that is very challenging. I got invaluable experience from that. The workplace that I did for my third year I actually work there and it was in a drug and alcohol counselling setting. In nursing I used to work with people who had drug and alcohol issues. Our social work unit finds those placements for us, I thought: oh no, not drug and alcohol but the clients present very differently and I'm really enjoying being in that role. The placement gave me an opportunity to see that, to see how different people do their job. In social work we also have seminar classes running at the same time as our placement so we'd go to our seminar every fortnight and we'd talk about what we'd learnt and talk about the theories that were behind them.

I didn't want a work placement as part of my degree but I did it at a consulate more specifically the consulate of the republic of Macedonia. Very interesting in the sense that you need a lot of people. It's very important, very specific, very methodical and it's very good for experiencing what a real life workplace would be like. It gives you a work ethic that you can't probably experience in a lot of places. So I found that very, you could say life-changing in a sense.