

Career counselling transcript

Often students feel bewildered because they're trying to choose a career for their whole life. And I try to encourage them that they're not going to be like their parents with one career through their whole life. Demographers are saying now that students who are going into university are going to have 5 or 6 careers. So really you only have to think about the next 5 years.

The most important thing that year 12 students can do when they're unsure is to do lots of research. And another thing that they could do which would be very helpful is to look on this government website MyFuture and it really helps you establish whether you like to work with people or with data - inside, outside - and gives you a number of job options at the end.

If you feel like you've persevered through a course and your heart isn't really in that course there are some other options. You could go and do a work integrated learning program, and then you're working on the job, getting paid and it gives you an opportunity to see how the big world works.

The other thing that you could think about is doing some postgraduate study in an area where you'll become a specialist.

The most important thing is to do a course that taps into your skills and enjoy doing a course and do very, very well.

At the end of every year many students feel disappointed. They've got their year 12 results, but they don't get the university course that they had hoped for. So I'd like to encourage students to not give up at that point. First of all there's careers counselling available through Victoria University. Another idea is having a gap year and having a break - doing some hospitality or customer service and then think carefully about what they might want to do. And then of course there's the opportunity to go into mid-year entry so there's no need to get discouraged or to give up. Stay strong and look towards the future.