



## Nassra's Story



### *A University Partner Success Story*

#### **Tell us about yourself.**

My name is Nassra Alghammari and I am from Oman. I am currently undertaking the AUT Certificate in Foundation Studies programme online with UP Education.

#### **How long have you been in the online programme?**

I have been in the programme for about 2 months now.

#### **Why did you choose UP Education?**

I always dreamt of studying in an English-speaking country so when I approached the local education agencies, I was recommended UP Education. I was advised that UP Education is the best internationally accredited provider of higher education throughout New Zealand and Australia. Afterwards, I did my research, through family and friends, online and UP Education was ticking all the boxes of my checklist, so it was an easy choice from there.

#### **Why did you choose to pursue your studies with UP Education online?**

I decided to pursue my studies online with UP Education after quarantine limitations as it was a great way to make the most of my time – whether you are dealing with COVID 19 restrictions or just prefer to study flexibly.

With the pandemic happening, I thought I would have to wait at home for the next intake. So, I was pleased to be able to start my studies now by learning online, especially with UP Education as they are already experienced in online delivery. It also means I can go to University next February as planned!

### *Student Profile*

#### **STUDENT NAME**

Nassra Alghammari

#### **NATIONALITY**

Omani

#### **PROGRAMME**

AUT Certificate in Foundation Studies Programme (Standard Plus), January 2020

#### **UNIVERSITY DESTINATION**

Auckland University of Technology (AUT), New Zealand

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### How has your online experience been so far?

Initially, it did take me a while to adjust to the time difference between Oman and New Zealand. However, after some time I did get used to the routine and now I am thoroughly enjoying my classes. It is fun having meaningful discussions with my teachers and fellow students from different countries and backgrounds. Studying online also allows me to have enough time to finish my studies, practise my hobbies and maintain my personal wellbeing.

### How are you finding the learning experience with your teachers in the online environment?

The teachers are extremely helpful and often go above and beyond in helping me understand and pass the assignments. They always keep in touch with us out of class time through social media and are available to answer any of our questions.

The teacher's support and commitment have instilled more confidence, reassurance, and motivation to continue with my goals. Thanks to the teachers I can maintain high grades as they nurture me through every step of the way.

### Can you describe your everyday schedule for us?

At the start of each week, I take part in a session where key learning tasks for the week are discussed. During the week, my teacher will go over content in more depth with us. I will then engage with recorded videos, interactive learning activities, English language interactive practice tasks, and further live video classes.

### What systems/applications do you use every day? Are they easy to use?

All the platforms we are using to study online are simple to manage and use. We use a variety of learning platforms that make it super easy for us to get all the information we need, in a clear way. Zoom is used for real-time classes, Blackboard is the primary teaching resource where my pre-recorded lessons will be provided (they call this flipped learning – they tell you what you're going to learn before the class so that you can fully prepare and discuss the concepts they are presenting and any questions you may have in class. UP Education has been using this proven, highly effective approach for more than 5 years on campus) which made the transition to online super easy for me.

### What are the benefits that you noticed about studying online?

I have more time on my hands as I do not have to consider making my lunch ahead and getting dressed up. The courses are available right at home and I have more time to revise my notes and ask the teacher follow up questions. I am also saving more money as I am eating more at home and I have more free time to continue my hobbies.

### If you have any advice for other students who also want to study online, what would it be?

You probably put in a lot of effort in planning your studies for 2020, spent a lot of your time researching and maybe even made bookings. Do not waste your time right now and go ahead with your educational goals online, as you are still receiving the same content and service as on campus. You can progress with your studies right now and once COVID 19 restrictions have been lifted, you will find yourself a step ahead.



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**NASSRA IS SHAPING HER FUTURE.**

To shape yours, enrol with UP Education, New Zealand.

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