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Siya's Story

A University Partner Success Story

Tell us about yourself

Hi, I'm Siya from China. I completed the Foundation programme at University of Auckland International College (UoAIC) and am now in my first year of studying Engineering at the University (UoA) of Auckland.

How did your experience at UoAIC?

UoAIC really helped me prepare for university by guiding me in choosing the right courses. For example, if you want to study Engineering, you can take calculus and physics. It also helped me improve my English and adapt to studying in a new environment.

Did you have any special experiences at UoAIC?

Yes! One of the most memorable experiences was Pink Shirt Day. Everyone, including teachers and students, wore pink shirts and shared food together. It was a great opportunity to connect with others. Also, I made some really great friends at UoAIC. We studied together and had so much fun. The best part is that many of us ended up in the same faculty at the University of Auckland, so we're still close and supporting each other through our studies.

What was the biggest challenge as an international student?

The biggest challenge for me was studying in English. Completing assignments and understanding lectures was tough at first, but it helped me gain a lot of experience and confidence in solving difficult problems.

Student Profile

STUDENT NAME
Siya Zhong

NATIONALITY
Chinese

PROGRAMME
The University of Auckland Certificate in Foundation Studies (Standard)

INTAKE
July 2023

UNIVERSITY DESTINATION
University of Auckland, Bachelor of Engineering

How is university life at the University of Auckland?

It's really exciting and diverse! There are so many clubs and events, and you have the flexibility to manage your own schedule. The professors and classmates are friendly and supportive, which makes studying here a great experience.

Is studying Engineering difficult?

Engineering is definitely challenging, but I am not alone. I can study with my classmates, discuss with my lecturers, and get help from tutorials and student support services. There are also dedicated support centres, where I can ask for help anytime.

Did you always plan to study Engineering?

Initially, I wanted to study business analytics. But after studying economics at UoAIC, I realised it wasn't the right fit for me. I wanted to take on a new challenge, so I chose Engineering.

What is your favourite course so far?

I really enjoy Engineering 101, especially the electronics part. Every two weeks, we have in-class exercises where we work in teams of four to solve problems together. It's really engaging and fun!

What is the most rewarding part of studying Engineering?

For me, the most satisfying moment is when I solve a difficult coding problem. At first, it's frustrating, but when the script finally runs correctly, it feels amazing! It gives me a strong sense of achievement.

What do you think about living in New Zealand, and what are your future plans?

I love New Zealand! It's a beautiful country with clean air, less traffic, and lots of nature. The lifestyle here is very relaxing compared to other places. As for my future plans, I'll need to choose a specialisation soon. Right now, I'm considering Software Engineering because I really enjoy coding and problem-solving, and I think it will be useful for my future career.

Would you recommend studying Engineering at the University of Auckland?

Definitely! Engineering is challenging, but the support system here is excellent, and there are great job opportunities after graduation. The faculty also provides internships, which give you valuable hands-on experience before you even graduate.

Finally, do you have any advice for students considering UoAIC?

UoAIC is a great place to prepare for university life. If you're not sure what to study, the staff will help guide you in choosing the right courses. If you enjoy Engineering and like solving challenges, the University of Auckland is the perfect place for you. Come and join us!

"The most satisfying moment is when I solve a difficult coding problem—frustrating at first, but amazing when it finally works!"

SIYA IS SHAPING HER FUTURE.
To shape yours, enrol with UP Education, New Zealand.