Fast Forward

Graduate Dickson Chew, 25, found that the accelerated degree offered at Ngee Ann-Adeelaide helped him to be quick on the uptake at work.

You were doing a business degree course at a local university before switching midstream. What made you change?

I spent a year doing a Bachelor of Business Management. Then I received a brochure about Ngee Ann Kong's bond-free scholarship for Ngee Ann-Adeelaide's (NAA) Bachelor of Commerce programme. My options were: stay another three years at the local university to complete my Bachelor of Business Management, or take up NAA's Bachelor of Commerce which could be completed in just one year. It meant it would be two years ahead of my peers at a huge cost saving – those were the deciding factors.

Tell us more about the course.

There are four tracks one can take at NAA BCom programme: General, Management, Marketing and International Business. Each track has different core and elective modules from a range of 17 modules offered by The University of Adelaide (UoA) at the NAA campus.

Each module is taught in two non-consecutive, intensive weeks. Whatever concepts you learn in the morning, you have to grasp them by that afternoon's tutorial.

How did you find the pace?

We were encouraged to think critically and self-learn, both valuable life skills. I feel students who do well under this intensive teaching model are able to comprehend concepts faster than their peers who undergo the conventional semester model.

How has the course benefitted you?

The intensive teaching model really helped me in learning new concepts quickly which is very beneficial for the corporate world. I was able to understand tax laws and practices, and apply them to my work quickly beyond my superiors' expectations during my year in US Tax Compliance.

What are your teachers like?

We are taught by the same academic staff from the UoA onshore campus, which ensures academic consistency and confidence in the programme.

Does the school offer other educational opportunities?

Students benefit from the global learning opportunities that the University has put in place. The Summer or Winter school is particularly popular with our local students, where they can enrol in one or two modules to be completed over two weeks at the Adelaide campus. The Student Exchange programme allows you to pay the local fee and complete a module at any of the approved foreign universities worldwide. The University of Adelaide has such tie-ups with 140 top universities across all regions.