



Megan

STUDYING

**Theatre and professional practice
BA (Hons)**

YEAR

Finishing 3rd year

FUTURE CAREER FOCUS:

**Teaching English as a
Second language in
South Korea**

Q&A

WHERE IS YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE ON CAMPUS?

Campus centre or main theatre.

WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING IF YOU WEREN'T AT UNIVERSITY?

Freelance performer.

IF YOU COULD DO SOMETHING DIFFERENTLY ABOUT YOUR TIME AT UNIVERSITY, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Musical theatre in second year as that was not an option for the theatre students, only the acting students.

WHAT IS YOUR GO TO MEAL TO COOK?

Probably chicken wraps, but I enjoy cooking, so I make lots of dishes.

HOW DID YOU MAKE YOUR FIRST FRIEND AT UNIVERSITY?

I downloaded an app called campus centre or campus talk, something on those lines and found someone who was on my course. We chatted through there and when we first moved into accommodation, I invited her over to hang out for a bit and she has been my best friend ever since.

WHAT IS IT LIKE LIVING ON CAMPUS?

I think it is very fun, I enjoyed living on campus a lot, especially playing pool in the common room with my friends and being able to walk over to our student hub for things like karaoke night. Overall living in accommodation was brilliant.

WHAT IS THE HARDEST THING ABOUT UNIVERSITY?

For me I would say living away from home as I am quite close with my family but I saw them quite a lot as they didn't live too far away, but it can be quite difficult, however you usually end up making your own little family at university which helps this homesickness.

WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT UNI?

I loved my whole experience of university, I loved how we were treated differently by the lecturers which allowed us to create bonds. I loved the friends I have made at university. The classes, the accommodation, all of it. I am very thankful for coming to university and truly believe I have developed into a person ready for the 'adult world'.

WERE YOU THE FIRST IN YOUR FAMILY TO GO TO UNI?

In my direct family yes, but my cousin did go, however we don't really talk so I didn't really have anyone to discuss it with, which can be quite daunting, but honestly it isn't as scary as you think, there is a lot of support systems setup to help you out.

HOW DO YOU AFFORD UNI, WHAT DO YOU DO FOR MONEY?

Firstly, when getting your loan, it can be quite overwhelming. My main priority is writing down any outgoings I have (e.g. rent, food, phone bill...) then allocating the correct amount of money to the different outgoings, making sure I know how much I need a month for food and how much I have spare for leisure activities.

The most important outgoing is rent, as long as you have the money put aside for rent then the rest is slightly less important. Once I have paid rent, I divide my money into months and then into categories.

Example:

Loan: £2,455 (gifted at the beginning of October and has to last until the beginning of January, so roughly 3 months)

Rent: £1,500 (2,455-1,500= 955)

955 divided by 3 months = 318

Food (shopping at Lidl) I would say can be done easily for £30 a week x by 3 = £90

318-90 = 228

Phone bill, mine as an example is £35 a month, so 228-30 = 198

These are kind of the essential things, this leaves you with £198 a month and this can go quickly and easily, therefore getting a part time job can help keep this money up and help you to save a little. I got a part time job in my first year working for the universities access and outreach team, and this job has given me both opportunities to save money and develop as a person. My income with this job always changes sometimes I earn £50 a month sometimes I earn £300 a month and ever so occasionally I can earn £600 a month or so. However, with a job with more set hours there is more of a stable guarantee of money possible, it is just with this job in particular, they work around our timetables and it is up to us to choose work.