An interview with a Social Work student…

Keeley White

1. Why did you choose Chichester to study your degree?

I chose Chichester as it was the only university that I felt placed value on previous work experience. The campus has a very personal and welcoming feel.

2. How would you describe your lecturers?

I personally found all of the lecturers to be approachable and supportive. They have a genuine interest in their student’s wellbeing, both academically and personally. They are each individually passionate about their subject, which helps to engage you, particularly if the subject was one that you thought you were not previously interested in.

3. How are you supported in your studies?

There is a lot of support available if you ask for it. The amount of interaction you will have with your lecturers outside of the lessons will depend on whether you require and initiate it. The IT and library support is excellent and are often able to solve your difficulties over the phone.

4. Which modules have you enjoyed studying and why?

That’s a really tough question as I have enjoyed parts of all the modules (with the exception of law, which I believe is quite usual!). The parts I enjoyed most included an experiential element, which provides a welcome relief to lots of power points.

5. Describe your fellow students

My three years at university have been spent with a fantastic group of students. The support and encouragement has been unconditional. The large group has split into smaller sub groups, as is a natural process however, there has been a sense of unity and team work throughout. The mixture of ages and life experience just enhances the experience.

6. What are the facilities like on campus?

The facilities are great, again if you choose to use them. The SU Bar is cheap, although make the most of it in year one as you won’t have time in year two and year!

7. What do you do when you aren’t here at University?

Study!!! And continue to raise my children in between!

8. What are your plans for the future once you have graduated?
I plan to begin my life as a qualified social worker and will continue with my own professional and personal development.

9. Have you any advice for other students?

Yes lots! There will be times that you feel you are putting your life on hold and in a way you are, just go with it and embrace the experience – the three years passes ridiculously fast. Become familiar with the library and its resources early on, particularly the use of e-journals as you will need to use these more as you go through the course. Work at your own pace and in your own way, as there is a temptation to compare yourself with others which only puts you under greater pressure.

Make full use of the office for information or even a chat. They have a good grasp on what is going on and are always happy to help.

Finally, if you don’t understand something or are unclear ask the module lecturers. Fellow students are great to get advice and support from, but there is a tendency to receive conflicting information which will only increase your anxiety.

Good luck and have fun x