

Angie Cook

Foundation Studies program



Angie Cook always wanted to be a nurse and, after emigrating from the UK with her young family in 2005, found her chance to make it happen through UniSA's Foundation Studies program.

Foundation Studies is designed for people who want to study at uni but don't qualify through the standard pathways. It gives students the skills needed for university study and prepares them for entry into UniSA undergraduate degrees - a major benefit for Angie.

'I want to go on to the Bachelor of Nursing program at UniSA,' she says. 'Nursing has always been my dream and now my chance is coming around.'

With three children, Angie was initially concerned about how she would fit study into a busy schedule. However, she's found that a little organisation goes a long way toward settling into a new routine.

Having the option to study part-time and building supportive contacts at uni have also helped. Angie's lecturers and tutors have been encouraging, and she has established friendships with other adult entry students.

'The Learning Connection Service held a workshop for adult entry students prior to the start of the program,' she says. 'It introduced us to the uni environment, what to expect and time management skills.'

'It was great to meet other adult students and to make some early friendships with like-minded people.'

Although Angie is focused on reaching her nursing goals, she's discovered that university study is about much more than earning a qualification, and has embraced the chance to gain a broader outlook.

'Studying has really taught me to question things,' says Angie. 'In a short time I'm seeing the world through different eyes.'

'It's also great spending time with other adults in a stimulating environment. It allows me to bring more to parenting - because I'm being educated, I can educate my children as well.'