



With an ATAR of 99.65, Class of 2014 Dux Nathan D'Souza recognises what it takes to strive for excellence in today's 21st century learning environment. Nathan shares how high ATAR scores open up a world of possibilities.

Nathan, where are you now and what are you doing?

I am now at the University of Melbourne, studying the degree of Bachelor of Biomedicine.

People often experience pathway decisions in their lives. Describe your dilemma and decision making process in choosing a pathway.

During school, I was very undecided as to what I wanted to study at university. I only knew that I wanted to do something in the maths and science field, but with the help and guidance of my parents, Salesian College, university Open Days and other information, I decided to study Biomedicine. Having completed one semester of it, I can say that I am very happy with the decision that I have made, as it is proving to be a very engaging and enlightening course.

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THE PROFESSIONAL DILEMMA

Nathan D'Souza 2014 College Dux





What has been your biggest learning to date through this pathway decision experience?

I learnt that speaking to as many people as possible greatly helped me to understand the system and how university works, so that I could make a more informed decision. Certainly, I did receive some vastly different information regarding careers and such, but sorting through it all is what helped me to better understand myself and everything else.

What comes to mind when you think about what life will look like in 5 -10 years from now?

I hope that by then I will have a good job, and that everything in life will fall into place. I certainly see more responsibility, but that's what life is all about!

How has faith inspired you to push forward with your dreams and aspirations?

Faith certainly has helped me to stay focused, has given me confidence when I've needed it, and has given me understanding and wisdom, which has inspired me to fulfil my dreams.

Tell me about the relationships in your life that hold meaning and how these have guided you.

My parents are always there for me, and take a deep interest in helping me to progress through life. They inspire me to do the best that I can, and give me

confidence and belief that I can succeed. Without my parents, I definitely wouldn't be where I am today.

My friends also help me to push through the rigours of life, as I hope that I do for them. We support one another and also provide some good competition to contend against!

Describe the difference you want to make in your profession.

I aspire to being a leader in my field, and to contribute to society in a positive way, such as improving people's lives or aspects of the world we live in.

Do you have any parting words/suggestions for students at Salesian College Chadstone?

Value your time at Salesian College the most you can. It is one of the most memorable times in your life. Appreciate the fact that there are always people willing to help you at school. Commit yourself to studying, and do your best to enhance your chances of success for the future. Also, value the relationships you make. Always be true to yourself, as you are the one living your life, so live it to fullest!