Jade Oakley studies a Business degree alongside Mandarin Chinese

“My relationship with Mandarin Chinese began in 2016 when I travelled to study Mandarin and Chinese culture at Beijing Normal University on the Study China programme. We experienced Chinese language, culture and family life and it was the most amazing, eye-opening experience of my life; I knew I wanted to go back so I decided to develop the language skills I had learned with Uniwide.”

What do you enjoy most about your Uniwide language classes?

Uniwide offers a fantastic opportunity to develop skills you may not otherwise have considered. As a Business student, Mandarin is a great asset to have in the developing world of business. I have also met like-minded people whom I would never have met otherwise.

What’s the most useful thing you have learnt so far?

How to say ‘let’s do our best!’ or ‘good luck!’ in Mandarin is a great asset to have in the developing world of business. I have also met people from different years and courses, which is incredibly rewarding! You get two hours of in-class time a week, plus an optional two hour drop-in session which really helps. We are set homework every week and always get prompt feedback about it.

Leah Caffrey is a first year studying Japanese for 15 credits alongside Tourism Management.

“Ever since I was young, I have been interested in Japan – my grandparents visited when I was 10 and to this day I’ve kept the postcard. As I got older, everything about the country interested me: the fashion, the music, the history, the language. After I got to visit Japan in 2016, I knew I needed to do anything I could to be able to return. Finding out my course let me study a language alongside was incredible; kind of like the stars aligning. There wasn’t any doubt in my mind; I had to learn Japanese.”

What do you enjoy most about your Uniwide language classes?

It’s not just two hours of sitting and copying from the textbook; it’s a chance to meet so many people from different years and courses, and you learn about the country and the culture as well.

What’s the most useful thing you have learnt so far?

The alphabet – Japanese has 3! I thought I’d really struggle to get my head around that, but once you tackle Hiragana and Katakana everything starts to make so much sense.

Sarah Brown studies German alongside Primary Education

“I chose to study a language because I loved German at GCSE but found the thought of A Level exams too scary. With Uniwide there’s the chance to progress in a relaxed environment with exams in reading and writing which you sit in a classroom, and a speaking assessment done in a group which makes it less terrifying! You get two hours of in-class time a week, plus an optional two hour drop-in session which really helps. We are set homework every week and always get prompt feedback about it.”

What’s your favourite word in your new language?

‘がんばって’ (ganbatte) it basically means ‘let’s do our best!’ or ‘good luck!’

What opportunities has learning a Uniwide language given you?

Aside from the chance to learn my dream language? The chance to interact with so many people that are also interested in Japan and Japanese culture. It also helps a lot of the people have taken a language voluntarily, so people are really dedicated to their studies.

Find out my course let me study a language alongside was incredible; kind of like the stars aligning.”

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