

I am from India and study MSc Entrepreneurship at Royal Holloway. Prior to this, I completed a Masters in Computer Science in India and I have about 10 years of work experience in the field of IT.

After working for this long, I decided to do something of my own. For that very reason I needed support in the form of a formal education in business to understand the new-age business methodologies. Universities in the UK have a reputation of conducting practical courses and not just based on theories.

I looked on the internet about courses related to Entrepreneurship in various colleges in the UK. I chose Royal Holloway for the prestige, the course outline, the ranking, and the impressive number of international students studying here.

In these few months spent here, I have been able to gather a lot of wide exposure to various subjects related to Entrepreneurship. The courses are wide as well as deep.

The support from the university is commendable. For example, I requested for a book that I found online, which was interesting to me on an entrepreneurial subject. It was not available in the library. I didn't want to spend more money on books. I requested the library and the book was made available to me in just a few days.

I feel great to be part of many happy students at Royal Holloway. When I go back to my country I will be a new me!

Support from CeDAS

For me as an international student I had no clue about how to write academic essays so I was worried about things like plagiarism, citations and referencing. I was worried about copying something accidentally and not being able to write in my own voice. Education is totally different over here. The support I received from CeDAS gave me a clear understanding of how an academic essay should be written, which has been so beneficial to my studies. The classes are free of charge, so I could join as many different classes as possible to really polish my reading and writing skills.

The first advice I received was to go through all the literature and make concise notes. They helped me articulate what I was trying to say in an essay and make sure I'm not stealing someone else's thoughts. I've also attended group lectures. We also received handouts which are really helpful because I've been able to refer back to them while doing my academic work. The talks impressed on me the benefits that were available from CeDAS. It's not only for international students but all students can be included so there are lots of different areas of support to help people with different needs.

I am enjoying life as a student because I'm getting a lot of support from the whole college, from the Students' Union and from my peers. It's important to know I'm not alone. I came here alone but after the welcome week I realised how many people are here to support me and know there's help around whenever I need it. If you're feeling lonely, if you're feeling unwell or if you're worried about something there is someone to talk to. Everyone is really approachable.

I love my course. I had ten years of work experience and decided I wanted to study entrepreneurship. I've got so many ideas already about what I want to do next.

I now have a pool of ideas that I can take home with me. That's exactly what I was looking for, to experience a different culture and learn more about being innovative and networking.

Jhana Adwani

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