

Gawler & District College B-12



Alumni

I'm Eleni Bartemucci and I was in the 2015 graduating class. Ever since I was a child, I knew I wanted to be a lawyer. I have always wanted to help people who weren't able to help themselves and believed this was the perfect opportunity to do so. I worked hard throughout high school, always keeping my eyes on the prize, and was lucky enough to get the ATAR I needed to get into law school at the University of South Australia.

While I studied my law degree I completed the degree in trimesters rather than semesters, meaning I could complete with my honours degree in 3 short years. When I was close to completing my degree, I was struck with a huge barrier – I no longer knew whether I wanted to be a lawyer. I had my heart set on criminal law defence but was struggling finding hope in not only humanity but the ethical choices behind my intended field of law.



Eleni Bartemucci

Class of 2015
Law & Journalism

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I always considered myself a zealous advocate in my first year but in my third, my values had changed, I seemed to have changed. I decided I would turn my single degree into a double degree, enrolling in Bachelor of Laws (honours), and Bachelor of Journalism & Professional Writing. I always enjoyed writing and loved the idea of informing people on current affairs. This meant I could have my honours law degree along with a journalism degree in 5 years. I ended up overloading my journalism degree and so I finished my degrees in 4 and a half years, completing mid 2020.

Beginning my degree was exciting, it was everything I waited for and luckily for me, I was able to meet a close group of friends on my first day. Those three girls turned into a cohort that grew together over three years and some of which I am sure will be lifelong friends for me.

I am so grateful for the opportunities I had. University gives you the chance and flexibility to be who you want to be and grow professionally and personally. It can seem daunting to have to choose what you want to do at such a young age, but it does have its benefits, you're young and you have all the time in the world to change your mind – **you have time.**

Tips

My top tip for students in Year 12 is **stay organised!** I know everyone says it and while it seems cliché it really is incredibly important. Year 12 will set you up for University so use it as an opportunity to learn how to organise and prioritise your time to stay on top of personal and professional tasks. My second and almost equally important tip is **start networking early.** If you know your intended field, then start building a contact list now. When you get to Uni, **every opportunity is a chance to learn,** network and build your resume – so no job is too small or irrelevant. Most importantly, have fun. These last 4 and a half years have gone so quickly for me and my peers all agree, so take the time and enjoy yourself.



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