

Swinburne offers pathways that deliver dream career opportunities



Lorraine Jaffer is a Southern Kaantju woman from Coen, Cape York, Queensland.

Having resided in Melbourne for five years now, Lorraine began her Swinburne journey in 2019, studying a Diploma of Sport Development and Diploma of Leadership and Management.

The dual diploma is offered through Swinburne's partner the Richmond Football Club, through the Richmond Institute of Sports Leadership.

Lorraine is currently in her second year of a Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Science. Completing the dual diplomas meant that Lorraine could pathway into her bachelor degree. She also received credit towards her bachelor studies.

Lorraine has connected with the Moondani Toombadool Centre from the beginning of her study journey. This has allowed her to meet other mob both in her course and in the wider Swinburne community.

She has participated in the Indigenous Nationals, travelling to Perth to compete in sports with the Swinburne team in 2019.

Lorraine says that her success so far has been due to focusing on her own journey and asking for help when she needs it, especially during COVID lockdowns when she has been studying online.

Lorraine has also been making an effort to get out of her comfort zone, which she believes has helped her grow and understand more about university life.

Lorraine initially didn't know anyone at Swinburne, but she went out of her way to make friends.

This helped build a network of people around her that she can connect with to help guide her in her studies, whether that be friends in her course or the staff in the Moondani Toombadool Centre.

Lorraine also has an amazing support system of family and friends outside of uni that have played an

important role in her success.

When she isn't studying, Lorraine has recently found a new lockdown hobby of baking healthy treats, then sending them to her sisters for a taste test.

She also enjoys bike rides and walks to the parks around her area to get out of the house and get a bit of fresh air.

Lorraine's dream job is to work in the sports industry as a high-performance coach with sports clubs, or a sports development officer.

She believes there is a lot of hidden talent out in our communities and she would love to one day help a young athlete achieve their dreams.

For any mob thinking of studying, Lorraine's advice is to stay focussed on your own journey and to reach out if you are struggling with your studies, there will always be someone to help you.

She says it is also important to make sure that you surround yourself with people who will help you achieve your goals.



Southern Kaantju woman Lorraine Jaffer is studying towards a Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Science at Swinburne.



Moondani Toombadool Centre

Moondani Toombadool Centre is a transformational leader grounded in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledges.

Moondani Toombadool Centre offers you ongoing support from course selection right through to graduation. This includes:

- a range of scholarships for Indigenous students,
- tutoring through our Indigenous Academic Success Program,
- a dedicated Indigenous student lounge, and
- social and cultural events throughout the year.

And as Swinburne is a dual-sector university, we have courses ranging from certificate level to PhD – so we can provide pathway options into any area of study that may interest you.

For more information on studying and available support for Indigenous students at Swinburne, please contact the Moondani Toombadool Centre:

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