ELECTRONICS

Robert Pill, Electrotechnology Teacher: my name is Robert Pill, I’m a teacher here at RMIT in the school of Electrotechnology, which is basically divided into electrical and electronic. In Electronics, we’re talking about radio, micro processors, controllers that run your TV and video these days and Electronic Engineers actually design the circuitry and the processors to do that.

Simon Chow, RMIT Student: I thought I’ve picked up quite a lot of skills, I’ve worked with many different components, I’ve learnt how to work in the circuit design, especially hand skills like soldering, basic design, board layout, computer design. So I’ve picked up a lot of skills through doing this.

Student: At first it was more that I wanted to defer coming out of year 12, I didn’t want to go straight into a degree and I thought this would be a nice happy medium because I thought TAFE would be easy. Its not that easy..in the uni equivalent of the degree, you’d be doing less hours but less practical work. One of the advantages of TAFE is that you do get massive hands on experience. In uni you may not be doing some of the things we are doing until third year. So you might be learning about it but you are not actually doing it as much.

Simon Chow, RMIT Student: You have the option to, if you do articulating, you have the option to go to uni, into third year if your marks are above 75%, so you can do a degree from this course, if not, you walk away after two years with your advanced Diploma, so you win both ways.

Student: I have a friend who is actually currently doing his PhD at the moment and he got a 90 enter score but decided to go to TAFE and he got a head start on some of the other students on some of the practical skills that he learned from TAFE and its really helped him out with this PhD as well

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