

## My experience at HMP Wormwood Scrubs

I embarked on the OU LLB (hons) module wanting a promotional opportunity with my employer and felt I lacked essential skills that other applicants had, when going for various job roles within my company. Then as the OU course progressed, I wanted to be part of the legal opportunities that the OU offered and the confidence that you can acquire with the OU is second to none.

I initially wanted to be acquainted with the OU legal course team as well as integrate with the other students and to be a part of this great pioneering project. I therefore volunteered for the Wormwood Scrubs Learning Together Project. After submitting my reason for volunteering, against tough competition, I was successful with earning this opportunity.

I cannot deny that initially I was scared, as I had never been near a courtroom let alone a prison, but as soon as I met the prison staff, who interact with the inmates daily, I felt completely at ease.

The constant work the staff do, is commendable, they are great people and definitely deserve a big thank you. The inside students and outside students, collaborated as a team on highly topical issues, such as, court procedures and knife crime. The atmosphere was welcoming and the team work was excellent. I walked away from every session learning something new, while engaging with people I never would be able to associate with. The OU lecturers were also good team leaders and team builders.

This is the experience and opportunity that the OU Open Justice team made available and as a pro bono opportunity, it was excellent. I found the whole experience enlightening and humbling all at once. This experience has made me want to embark on further legal training and be part of a wider legal community because of the fact that perhaps one day, I can be of service to persons who may really need support and I may be able to have a positive effect on my community.

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