



Jaanvi Naidu

Country: **Fiji**

Programme: **Bachelor of Food
Technology with Honours**

Campus: **Manawatu Campus**

Scholarship: **TSLs Merit Based
Overseas Scheme**



Why did you choose Massey University?

I chose Massey University because of its strong academic reputation and the unique programs it offers, particularly in Food Technology since this is a course which is not offered in Fiji. The flexibility of the courses, which allows me to balance my studies with my social life, which I believe is very important for students moving abroad without their families. Additionally, Massey University greatly supports international students from the Pacific Islands, making it an ideal choice for me as I ventured abroad for my education.

What has your experience at Massey been like?

My experience at Massey University has been enriching and transformative. The academic environment is engaging, with supportive lecturers who encourage critical thinking and creativity. I particularly enjoyed our ice cream project in Semester 1, which was both interesting and practical, allowing us to apply theoretical knowledge to real world scenarios.

Coming from Fiji, where I learned directly from textbooks and wrote notes by hand, I initially found it challenging to adjust to using laptops for note taking. However, this experience has taught me valuable lessons through trial and error, helping me discover the study methods that work best for me. The student support services are fantastic, and the academic advisers are very kind and quick to respond whenever I have emailed them for academic advice.

I live on campus in a hall, which has allowed me to immerse myself in the university culture. I've made a lot of friends, and there are plenty of social interactions, making it easy to connect with others. Everyone here is nice and genuinely looks out for one another, creating a supportive community that enhances the overall experience. I've also met lifelong friends during my time here, which has made the experience even more rewarding. While it can be bittersweet to leave my family back home, I've learned that those feelings will pass as I build my new life and community in New Zealand.

What advice would you give to future students?

For prospective students considering Massey University, my advice would be to fully engage with the resources available. Attend workshops, participate in student organizations, and don't hesitate to reach out for help! There will always be someone that will show you the right path. It's also important to manage your time well. Balancing study with life can be challenging, but it's essential for a fulfilling university experience. Lastly, be open to meeting new people and exploring new opportunities, you'll find that it greatly enriches your time at Massey.

Final thoughts:

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to TSLs (Tertiary Scholarships & Loans Service) for their generous support in sponsoring my studies and accommodation at Massey University. Their assistance has made this journey possible for me, and I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities I have encountered here. I encourage anyone considering applying to take the leap! It is a once in a lifetime opportunity and if given the chance, do not hesitate.