

SALFORD STORIES FROM THE SOUTH



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

DOMINIC WEST

/ BSC (HONS) ZOOLOGY GRADUATE

TAUNTON SCHOOL, SOMERSET



**THE TECHNICIANS AT SALFORD
ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF ALL
PRACTICAL, FIELD BASED TEACHING.
THEY ARE BRILLIANT!**

Tell us about your history at Salford

I have completed almost 8 years at Salford. I studied on the BSc (Hons) Zoology course and then moved on to study my PHD in Zoonotic Cestode Parasite infections in the Falkland Islands.

What is your favourite thing about the course?

I enjoyed my time as an undergraduate and as a postgraduate, it has got even better! At undergraduate, my favourite parts were the practical elements and fieldwork opportunities available. This is similar at PHD level, I really enjoy the travel and fieldwork.

How do you learn on the course?

For my undergraduate studies, the course was made up of lectures, practical sessions and field trips making the course really hands on. There are also placement years available, which provide a good opportunity to put your knowledge into practice.

The university has great facilities for lab work, including a newly refurbished state-of-the-art teaching lab. The library is also well-sourced and the staff can locate material for students that it doesn't already have.

What support is on hand?

The teaching staff are friendly and approachable, and it is really helpful that many of them are leaders in their field. The technicians at Salford are the cornerstone of all practical of field-based teaching. They are brilliant!

Tell us about the social side of university

I was a member of the Rugby union team for 3 years. Sports and societies are brilliant to get involved in. We all socialise together, and I have got lifelong friends from the society.

The Student Union organises some great events throughout the year – some are society/sports team based, some are charity, some are just for fun!

They also team up with clubs in Manchester city centre to host nights out throughout the year, which is good fun!

What about living and working in Salford?

During my first year I lived on campus, but after that I lived in a house with people I met in the sports teams. Walking is the best way around Salford and Manchester, but public transport into Manchester is easy.

I also worked for a security company that sponsored the University rugby team at the time, which was great part-time work!

What made you choose Salford?

I hadn't heard of Salford before but I met an academic from another university who recommended Salford to me. I came to an open day and really enjoyed it. It was an opportunity to speak to lecturers and staff, watch presentations and take tours of the labs. Seeing the facilities was helpful in making my decisions - I would recommend seeing them for yourself!

What do you want to do when you graduate and how has Salford helped you with this?

I don't know what I want to do yet, but I am sure Salford will be there to help me if I need it!

Best and worst things about living and studying in Manchester/Salford?

Best: Manchester is the best city in the UK, it has something for everyone!

Worst: Cheese and gravy on chips...it is rank!

What would you say to someone considering Salford?

Book on to an open day and visit!

My top tip: Embrace the university lifestyle and move far enough away so that your parents can't do your washing!

