

Thoughts from an accounting student

AAT paved the way for your success



Yuki Ngai

Programme: Diploma in Accountancy
(an HKIAAT accredited programme)

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There has always been a saying that you can judge a person's character by the profession he is in. Marketers are outspoken. Publicists are diplomatic, and bankers are detail-minded. If you think all accounting personnel talk numbers and are introverted, think again. After meeting Yuki Ngai, a final year student of diploma in accountancy, you may find such a saying carries much less weight.

As a cheerful and extrovert lady, Yuki is fond of meeting new people and travelling to different places. After making different kinds of trips, Yuki is happily blogging about them and posting the photos she took on her journey. She talks to us about what made her so fascinated with accounting and her journey in mastering accounting knowledge.

"Back in secondary school, as a science student, I was not really clear about what I studied. Experiments and chemical formulae were simply not my favourite things," says Yuki, who made a critical decision to take up an accounting course as her matriculation study. Her swift decision was supported by her teachers with accounting experience, and by her brother, who is an accounting technician. She learnt that accounting could connect her with the business world's back-end operations, and it gives her opportunities to go on business trips for audit and site visits.

After making the decision, Yuki was determined to go all out for this. With absolutely no former background in the subject, the diligent student called at the library every day after school to study and read extensively about the profession. This not only makes her stand out from her contemporaries, but was possibly also the reason for her winning the best presenter award in the Accounting and Business Management Case Competition recently held by HKIAAT.

An eye-widening experience

Months after the team-based business case competition was over, Yuki now still vividly remembers the excitement of winning the award. "We were so nervous that we all were holding hands shivering when the results were announced," recalls Yuki, who was delighted to have teamed up with a great bunch of people at IVE.

Yuki and her team members did not know each other very well before joining the competition. She admitted that they got off to a bumpy start as her team mates were not sure about their roles or even the core business. After a meeting or two, however,



the young participants began to identify each other's weaknesses and strengths before they took up the roles of R&D, marketing, finance, etc. Yuki saw that as a fruitful learning experience. She learnt to effectively negotiate and co-ordinate different people's thoughts. Also, being the best presenter, she has grasped some insights into little tricks that maximize an impact on an audience during a business presentation.

Yuki would like to thank the teacher who encouraged them to join the competition. Yuki also heard about the AAT qualification and the opportunities of career development associated with it from her teachers. With their encouragement, she plans to take the qualification and become a member of HKIAAT so as to gather market information and join HKIAAT activities such as seminars and workshops.

Fail to plan is plan to fail

As someone who changed from science to accounting stream, Yuki advises her counterparts to plan carefully and set a clear direction before taking this specialized path. This good planner is also convinced that market information is essential for understanding accountancy inside out. Therefore, she reads financial news and current issues to stay abreast of the latest events and trends.

Without substantial working experience, Yuki understands that a competitive academic background and professional qualification are what she needs to move on to the next step. She plans to finish her higher diploma and a bachelor's degree in accountancy, together with the AAT qualification. Her long-term goal is to become an accountant in the mainland China to get immersed in this burgeoning market, a place where there also are wonderful places for the keen traveller to explore.