

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

What is your name?

Eveline Scholtes

Why did you choose to study English?

I made the choice a lot harder than it could have been. England has always been a passion of mine and English was my best subject in secondary school. I just never thought of the fact that I could actually study it as well. My mind was always on other stuff. Not until my last year of secondary school did I seriously start considering English and I suddenly realised that if it was something I really liked, I might as well go and study it. For a while it was a close call between English and Italian, but in the end English came out on top. I really don't regret the choice. I'm very happy to be studying English and I'm enjoying it very much.

How do you see your future 'career' with this education? What do you expect afterwards?

I know that there are a lot of people that end up hardly using their study in their career. I really hope that when I finish my study, I will find some place to actually use what I've learned. Not just the academic skills, but the actual English. I'm not sure what I want to do yet. Maybe I'll end up doing a research master or maybe I'll become a teacher. I'm just going to see where it goes and which subjects I like best. I still have time enough to decide what I really want to do with it.

What are your favourite modules?

Actually, I liked most of the modules I've had so far. I like reading, so I liked Literature 1a. It was very interesting and I liked most of the books we had to read. Literature 1b was something I liked too. In secondary school, I had Latin as a subject, so I was already familiar with a lot of the material. We discussed a lot of myths and stories I really liked, so I quite enjoyed that. I also liked the Philology course we had. History is something that I've always liked, so I did not only enjoy reading the Canterbury Tales, I was also interested in the social aspects the module discussed. Language Acquisition and Linguistics were also quite nice, but they just didn't appeal to me as much as the other courses did.



Do you have any plans for going abroad? What would you want to do? (studying, placement, something else)? Where would you like to go? For how long?

I don't have any 'plans' yet, but I know that I definitely want to go abroad for some time during my study, if that's possible. I would like to go for a semester in my third year, wherever the English department allows me to go. In that case, I

would go as a student, but maybe I will be going abroad more often after that, if I have the opportunity. I haven't really looked into it yet, but I would prefer settling in England instead of America. It really depends on the universities that work together with Leiden and how many other students want to go as well. Secretly I'd love to go to Oxford, because of the history of those colleges, but if that's not possible I'm sure I'd be happy almost anywhere with a nice big university. Just the experience of studying in Britain would be fantastic for me. I feel right at home there, so I think I would enjoy it very much.

Did you go to any Albion activities? If yes, which did you like best? If not, why?

I went to some of the Albion tea parties, but apart from that, I haven't really done any Albion activities. I don't live in Leiden and travelling back to where I live isn't something easily done at night. Usually the activity doesn't weigh up to the travel time or the time I get home. That's why I usually don't do any of the Albion stuff. I did just return from a trip to London, which is almost the only activity I did that was Albion related. I had a lot of fun and I would definitely recommend it to the other students for next year. It was relatively cheap and for a student of English (or a fan of musicals or shopping) nothing beats being in London for a few days.

What kind of a job do you have now? How did you end up there?

Right now, I work at a supermarket (C1000). Nothing fancy or anything. Maybe I'll go and do some tutoring, but I always feel like I'll probably not be a very good instructor (maybe don't become a teacher then, yeah...). It's too bad I can't really do anything study-related right now, but maybe I'll find something next year.