

I've been at university for close to three years now. It's progressed just as you might expect, with ups and downs, and hardship countered by reward – not entirely smooth sailing by any means. My first two years were fairly consistent: I would begin my semesters by being introduced to a new unit, nested within the scope of some major or minor, and be informed of the specific skills and knowledge that I would hopefully comprehend and assimilate. And that was it. That's what the unit was, what the semester was, what the year was, what the degree was: a long-term idea taught and framed almost entirely in respect to the present.

Then, at the beginning of my 3rd year, I encountered an educator (not 'lecturer'), that asked the question "why are you at University?", and posed some answers. Those answers explored the development of character, of general competence, and raised the idea of potential within mindset – integrating the prospect of present and future. This was stimulating to say the least, and encouraged a level of vision and self-awareness that I'd found previously lacking within my tertiary education. Needless to say, it's provided me with a broader avenue for appreciation and productivity within my time spent at university.

I'd like to pose this question back to the academic faculty, to encourage further thought and consideration at higher levels, which will hopefully find itself articulated back within the classroom, and to you, the student, at every stage of your journey.