

ACOSMOPOLITAN

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT (LEARNING)



by Irshad Cader

Management in a Nutshell: An Open Letter to Management Students

It is my pleasure to send this message to the first edition of our newsletter published by the faculty of Business and Management of the Australian College of Studies (ACOS).

In the dynamic landscape of modern business, management plays a pivotal role in steering organizations toward success. A Management Diploma Program equips you with a diverse set of skills that transcend industries. Here's why investing your time and effort into such a program can be a transformative experience:

Holistic Skill Set: Management diploma programs provide a comprehensive understanding of key concepts such as organizational behaviour, strategic planning, marketing, finance, and human resources. This holistic approach empowers you to make informed decisions across different aspects of an organization, fostering a well-rounded professional profile.

Adaptability and Innovation: A management diploma program cultivates your ability to anticipate trends, respond to challenges, and devise innovative solutions that drive organizational growth.

Career Advancement: Whether you're seeking to advance in your current role or embark on a new career path, a management diploma can significantly enhance your career prospects. The practical knowledge gained equips you to take on more responsibilities and seize leadership opportunities.

Networking Opportunities: Engaging in a management diploma program opens doors to connect with like-minded peers, experienced professionals, and industry experts. Networking can provide valuable insights, mentorship, and potential collaborations that enrich your professional journey.

Global Perspective: In an increasingly interconnected



Group photo of GDM class in front of the Australia Parliament House

world, businesses operate on a global scale. A management diploma equips you with the knowledge to navigate cultural nuances, international markets, and diverse business environments effectively.

Entrepreneurial Endeavours: For those with entrepreneurial aspirations, a management diploma offers a solid foundation for launching and managing your own venture. From business planning to financial management, you'll gain the skills needed to turn your vision into a reality.

In conclusion, a Management Diploma Program is not just a credential – it's an investment in your personal and professional growth. Whether you're a recent graduate, a mid-career professional, or someone looking to pivot into a new field, the knowledge and skills acquired through such a program can make a meaningful impact on your journey.

As you consider your educational and career path, remember that learning is a lifelong endeavour. Embrace the opportunity to enhance your capabilities, broaden your horizons, and contribute to the ever-evolving world of business management.

Wishing you success in all your endeavours.

The Asian Guy Experienced the Land Down Under

by Mark Elio



Being the only student left from my batch who is continuing to study Graduate Diploma of Management (Learning) was an extraordinary experience that combined excitement, responsibility, and adventure.

Out of all the training organisations in Australia, I chose ACOS for its multicultural staff and the convenience they provide since it is within the heart of Parramatta Central Business District (CBD). It is close to different establishments like shopping centers, restaurants, and train stations. Also, the said Registered Training Organization (RTO) offers a Graduate Diploma of Management. It is a two-year program that gave me the opportunity to adapt to the environment of Australia and observe the different organisational cultures that weren't present in the Philippines.

When I first came to Australia, it was cold and gloomy. However, the unfamiliar weather did not douse the fire that blazed in my heart as I started the year 2022. I could never forget Former College Manager Jane's smiling face greeting me when I first entered ACOS; it was both calming and intimidating at the same time. I then met Sir Reginald which made me a bit more comfortable since he was also a fellow "kababayan".

Online classes started and I was SHOCKED. There were only two of us that joined the room. We were then acquainted with our beloved instructor, Sir Irshad Cader. I was nervous at first, but I soon grew to be comfortable with his teaching. I admired his professionalism and his experience in the field of business. He was by far one of the best instructors that I have known, and I will always be grateful for everything he taught us.

I will never forget all the sleepless nights balancing work and school, but I managed to pull through. One year and a half has passed since then, I am still alive and kicking. Still learning every day and will continue learning even after this program.

I only have two terms left but I know it's only the beginning of another chapter. This program truly opened a new path that I will confidently undertake as I build a future here in Australia. Keep on fighting everyone! All our struggles will always be fruitful in the end.

Starting a Side Hustle (Helpful tips!)

by Ralph Cornejo



With the recent 24-hour weekly work restriction for international students, there is no doubt that side hustles are the way to go for our generation. Thus, this brings a few things to the table – the opportunity to earn extra cash while developing personal growth and possibly a long term business.

I have been an international student here in Australia for over a year and based on my observations, here are some side hustles that have little to no investment:

Affiliate Marketing: Join affiliate programs and promote products or services through your blog, website, or social media. You earn a commission for every sale made through your referral link. I actually did this back in the Philippines where I sold everything from beauty soaps to creatine.

Dog-walker/sitter: Offer your dog-sitting services to your neighbours and friends. Australia is a pet-loving nation and since everyone is busy with everyday life, they need someone to provide such services. I literally became a dog sitter for a friend who went back to the Philippines. In exchange, they gave us their home to stay in while they were away for 3 weeks. That's \$960 of rent money saved.

Flipping secondhand and salvaged items online: In terms of legality, the laws around salvaging items that would otherwise be destined for landfill are decided by your local council, so just check on that.

I would buy garage sale items and sell them on the Facebook marketplace. This does require an eye for quality but that's what the internet is for. Just remember the stock broker mantra "buy low, sell high". By salvaging unwanted items left on the street, you help minimise waste and give items a second chance to be used. Just remember to disinfect, okay?

These are just a few things you could do to improve cash flow. I end this with a Latin quote that could motivate you to start a side hustle.

**“AUDENTES
FORTUNA
LUVAT”**

Welcome to Fiji!

by Angeline Kumar



Fiji is a paradise and an islet nation in the Pacific. It's a multicultural country, whereby people from races other than Fijians, such as Indians, Part Europeans, Chinese, Muslims, Sikhs, and other Pacific islanders live in harmony, and continue to sustain their culture and identity. Fijians, slightly over 50 percent of the total population, are basically members of communities. They live in townlets and do effects on a collaborative base. The people of Fiji are known for their beautiful Fijian smile. The Indians were brought to Fiji under the Indentured Labour- boat to work in the sugar club colonies about 100 times agone.

English is the lingua franca, but Fijian and Hindi are also tutored in government seminaries as part of the academy class. Indigenous Fijians have their own cants and you can tell where one comes from, from their shoptalk. Indians too have their own, and generally speak a distinctive Fiji- Hindi shoptalk. This isn't the same as the one spoken in India.

Fiji is the go-to country for snorkelers and divers. Fiji's white flaxen strands and tropical beauty attract callers from around the world to the country. Every- day is a sand day if you're in Fiji. Fiji has over three hundred islets, with one similar islet being the Mamanuca islets, where the world's top suds breaks are set up. Another notorious islet is Yasawa Island, which has the mystical Sawa- i- Lau grottoes, where swells and winds carved these grottoes thousands of times.



Fiji Marriot Resort (photo grabbed from <https://www.smh.com.au/>)

Sri Siva Subramaniya Temple is a Hindu temple located in Nadi, Fiji. It is dedicated to the deity Murugan, also known as Subramaniya, the son of

Shiva and Parvati. The temple is the largest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere and reflects the Dravidian architecture of South India. The temple complex consists of three parts: the main temple, the Naga Lingam temple and the Ganesh temple. The main temple houses the statues of Murugan and his consorts Valli and Devasena, as well as other deities such as Shiva, Ganesha, Durga and Hanuman. The Naga Lingam temple is a shrine for the serpent god Naga, who is believed to protect the temple. The Ganesh temple is dedicated to the elephant-headed god of wisdom and success, who is worshipped before any auspicious occasion. The temple is a popular destination for tourists and pilgrims, who come to admire its colorful and intricate carvings, paintings and sculptures.



Sri Siva Subramaniya Temple
(photo grabbed from <http://the-sprint-ink-world-of-colour.blogspot.com/>)

While the Christians in the country get to enjoy the Easter and Christmas public holidays, the government has also declared public holidays for Diwali and Prophet Mohammed's birthday in respect of Hindus and Muslims in the country. Fiji is a must-visit paradise that has one of the friendliest people on earth.



People of Fiji wearing traditional attire

It's Time to Explore the Australian Capital Territory: Canberra



by Beverly Declines and Jeanilyn Lamigo



It was a great gesture for ACOS to provide their GDM students with an educational trip to Canberra and experience the rich culture and heritage of this exquisite city free of expense. The city provided us with access to its outdoor and natural spaces, a safe environment, and an outstanding educational museum.



Group Photo Opportunity of GDM Class in front of the Australia Parliament House

There were few destinations on the tour. The first stop was the Parliament House. The historical place gave us a wide understanding of the Australian historical circumstances, unique architecture, and art collections. The part that caught our attention was that of the Senate Chamber which allowed us to envision how they made decisions for the state and their process for making great changes to the country.



Photo inside the Australia Parliament House's Senate Chamber



GDM students write their messages in the National Capital Exhibition Museum

The next place that we visited was the National Capital Exhibition. In this museum, we explored the past, present, and potential future of Canberra through displays featuring the people, events, history, and design of this unique and peaceful city.



GDM students while eagerly listen to the museum guide

Our last destination was the Royal Australian Mint. This has given us understanding, entertainment, and awe-inspiring discoveries about the Australian coins. We were accompanied by a beautiful guide who discussed unique insights about the country's coin production throughout the years, the eventful stories behind it, and how important coins are to Australian economic growth.

acossip!

guess who!

by Charrey Mae Tiangha



He owns a beauty and wellness business in the Philippines.

Clue: The name starts with the letter R

Clue: Fashionista

Clue: Tall, Handsome & Kind

She is the daughter of the town's captain in the Philippines.

Clue: The name starts with the Letter D

Clue: The name sounds like "Dying"

Clue: 4 eyed girl

He is a talented individual who plays different musical instruments. He also used to be the President of a University Choir back in the Philippines.

Clue: OH MY "GOSH"

Clue: "Mr. Innovator"

Clue: He's always using unique vehicle going to school

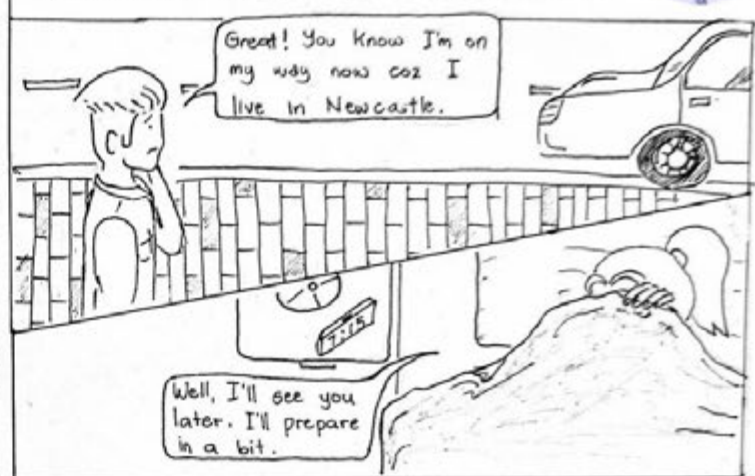
GDM FAMILY



COMIC STRIP

THE LONE STUDENT

Concept and Illustration by Josh Abnir Balbacal



Finding Comfort in Peers

by Mary Martha Marcial



I arrived in Sydney on the 15th of October, 2022. It was a beautiful sunny day, and yet the air felt chilly to my skin which was accustomed to the hot weather of my home country—the Philippines.

For the next few weeks, adapting to the climate of this new and beautiful country became my first challenge. I often joked that Australia makes its inhabitants go through all of its four seasons within the span of only one day—it is as cold as winter in the early morning, spring in the late morning, and then towards midday it becomes summer, and finally it becomes autumn when night falls.

Despite its rough weather, this country blooms with beauty—in the architectural structures found in its cities, in the natural assemblage in its wild and eco life. In my ten months here in this country, I have wandered around its cities, and its natural parks, and I have found corners that allowed me moments of thoughtful tranquility.

Very soon, however, I came across my second challenge, one that plagues newcomers such as myself just as much as the tricky weather—and that is the feeling of loneliness and alienation.

While my fellow international students and I bask in the wonders of a new adventure, it also holds true that some of our mornings may be touched by a bit of sadness, a bit of longing for the comfort that we had once known in our lives that we left behind in our home countries.

However, every dawn brings new beginnings and no burden can ever be truly heavy when one is surrounded by good people. In the months that I have spent with my GDM class, my days were filled with lively discussions and meaningful conversations. Outside the classroom, my classmates and I share some laughs and countless stories over cups of coffee; and just like that, the loneliness ebbs away.

A song from one of my favourite artists, Aurora, says, "Stitch your skin onto my skin and we won't be alone." A sentiment I would like to share with my fellow international students—we can feel lonely, but we are never truly alone when we have one another (as cheesy as that may sound). We always have our cups of coffee—growing cold in our hands as we become more invested in each other's stories.

Whatever it takes

by Maria Roscila Ann Bartolome



It has been my lifelong dream to work in a different country, travel to different places, try new and exciting things, meet new people and, at the same time, provide for the needs and wants of my family while I am away.

After trying my luck here in Australia as an international student to make that dream happen, I never imagined that this would be a very tough battle to fight EVERY DAY. Yes – EVERY DAY. From the struggle to fighting homesickness to the endless striving to make ends meet. There are also these financial and social pressures that eventually lead to anxiety and depression. Juggling studies and work at the same time? It is not a joke. Thousands of job application rejections? It surely is draining in every aspect. This is not to discourage anyone, but this is reality. Every day is a tough fight to cope with all these, but I can say that it is also an opportunity to learn and to remember why we are here.

Getting back up is a decision we should continue to choose if we want to turn our dreams into reality. Whatever it takes, choose to fight. Whatever it takes, choose to not be afraid and to be confident in making mistakes – because that is the only way you will ever learn. Let life continue to unveil the different side of you that you never knew you had and watch you turn your setbacks into setups and breakdowns into breakthroughs.

It's been 27 years in the making, but now I am here! I can say that the sleepless nights, waiting in agony, and my seemingly never-ending worries are all worth it! There is still a long journey ahead of me, but I have come a long way just to give up now. I am excited to look back one day and tell myself, "I'm glad you did whatever it took to be where you are now. I'm so proud you never gave up."

The Australian Department of Education released data showing that there were more than half a million international students in Australia in the month of May of the current year, 2023. This is 28% more compared to the statistics of the previous year in the same month. With the increasing number of international students, restrictions on student visa holders, and the increasing worth of life necessities in Australia, there is an uncertain thought that hovers over the minds of all the foreign individuals here in the Land Down Under. Is Australia still worth it?



Certain in the Middle of Uncertainties

Editor's Note

As part of human nature, craving security is normal, yet uncertainty embraces us in all forms. There are times when the feeling of anxiousness will dawn in the middle of nowhere, and the thought of what life will bring us in the future pops up. If left uncontrolled, the sense of powerlessness over the direction of life will bother a bright day and make it grey. It will drain emotions and make a loop of never-ending what-ifs while different scenarios of our life dreams fly everywhere. These uncertainties make us lunatics.

However, there is something specific in the middle of the uncertainty. We certainly have something to look forward to. There might certainly be a positive future waiting ahead until everything is ready and everything is settled in its proper place. Certainly, uncertainties are just chances to pause for a while and reflect on what our dreams mean to us. This is an opportunity for us to get ourselves skilled and equipped with everything we need when we get that thing called "certain".

Is Australia still worth it? Neither of us knows the answer. Nevertheless, in the uncertainty of what the Land Down Under might bring us in the future, there is something that we could hold on to. All the struggles and sacrifices that we are making today will make us better people soon.

Dino Sabino
Editor-in-Chief

*AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE NEVER LEARN HOW TO
BE BRAVE
IF THE ONLY THING IN THIS WORLD IS HAPPINESS.*

ACOS 2023-2024 ACADEMIC CALENDAR



2023 ACADEMIC CALENDAR (International Students)

1300 415 233
info@acos.edu.au
www.acos.edu.au



2024 ACADEMIC CALENDAR (International Students)

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info@acos.edu.au
www.acos.edu.au

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Public Holidays

Jan 1 - New Year's Day	Apr 8 - Holy Saturday	Jun 12 - Queen's Birthday	Study Period
Jan 2 - Additional public holiday for New Year's Day	Apr 9 - Easter Sunday	Oct 2 - Labour Day	Break
Jan 26 - Australia Day	Apr 10 - Easter Monday	Dec 25 - Christmas Day	Public Holiday
Apr 7 - Good Friday	Apr 25 - ANZAC Day	Dec 26 - Boxing Day	Weekend

Public Holidays

Jan 1 - New Year's Day	Mar 31 - Easter Sunday	Oct 7 - Labour Day	Study Period
Jan 26 - Australia Day	Apr 1 - Easter Monday	Dec 25 - Christmas Day	Break
Mar 29 - Good Friday	Apr 25 - ANZAC Day	Dec 26 - Boxing Day	Public Holiday
Mar 30 - Holy Saturday	Jun 10 - Queen's Birthday		Weekend

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