Accounting For The Future

For NUS undergraduate Shane Lim, acquiring leadership abilities and a well-rounded education are also needed to be an accountant today.

Beyond the classroom

Mr Lim had the opportunity to help his fellow students improve their financial literacy and industry knowledge when he served as a technical lead at NUS Invest Fiesta 2021 – the NUS Investment Club’s annual event – which was held as a webinar last October. During the three-day event, he was part of a team that brought various industry professionals to provide valuable insights on the financial industry, such as investment methodologies and the financial technology industry.

Though 2020 has been a tough year for many students, Mr Lim feels that his course has placed him in a good position to tackle what lies ahead.

He believes that he has experienced and learnt from “the best of both worlds”, having taken formal classes that provide a familiar sense of structure and online learning which has pushed him out of his comfort zone and challenged him to embrace self-directed learning.

“It is important that we are not afraid to step out of our comfort zones in individuals and to exist in a volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous world,” he says.

“My course not only hones my technical competency in accountancy, but also develops my transferable skills in terms of leadership, communication and management,” he says.

Continual development

Mr Lim says that despite 2020 being a tough year for students due to the disruptions, he feels that his course has placed him in a good position to tackle what lies ahead.

Mother's guidance

Mr Lim's drive to improve himself is inspired by his mother, who taught him that no challenge is insurmountable. "My mother always instilled in me the importance of never giving up, even when facing the most difficult situations," he says.

She persuaded him to come to Singapore on his own decade ago. She persevered despite being thrown into an unfamiliar environment.

Developing more skills

Mr Lim pursued an Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) Diploma in Accounting and Business. This helped him to better understand how businesses work while equipping him with the knowledge to see organisations - big and small - from all perspectives.

On-the-job experience

Mr Lim believes in learning through hands-on work and has held several jobs while pursuing his studies.

NUS Global Merit Scholarship recipient Shane Lim says that despite 2020 being a tough year for students due to the disruptions, he feels that his course has placed him in a good position to tackle what lies ahead. THE STRAITS TIMES