Time at Hertfordshire

Rajat, from New Delhi, India, completed his MBA in 1995 at the Hertfordshire Business School. Location played a key role in his choice of university. He wanted a peaceful and quiet study environment, perfectly provided by the Hertford campus, but within a short distance to London.

Rajat found his time studying abroad in the UK a formative experience, which has since shaped his personal and professional development. He felt his experience at the University was particularly influential in teaching him independence and self-reliance, skills he has found useful throughout his career.

‘In India, unlike the UK, we are dependent on our family to a large extent. My time at the University of Hertfordshire taught me independence, as I was solely responsible for my studies, finances and accommodation. The experience taught me organisational and time-management skills, which I have found crucial throughout my professional development.’

During his time here, Rajat stayed in Halls for a year. He shared accommodation with eight other international students, most of them also studying MBAs and from Asia.

‘Despite coming from different cultures and backgrounds, it was great to interact, share experiences and bond with other overseas students. After a while, they seemed like family.’

His studies in Business Administration gave Rajat a strong interest in entrepreneurship, inspired by excellent teaching and his exposure to his lecturers’ broad knowledge in business administration and management.

Current role

After graduation, Rajat initially worked in his family business. After a few years he decided to broaden his horizons by taking professional marketing roles in two auto parts manufacturing companies. Rajat felt his degree from the University of Hertfordshire made a ‘world of difference’ when applying for positions in the competitive Indian job market.

‘Having a degree, from a highly regarded UK institution such as UH, was a crucial factor in getting hired.’

After ten years, his spirit of entrepreneurship, initially fostered at UH, returned, and he set up a business of his own. He is now CEO of Saaee International, in New Delhi, India. His company supplies high quality hand tools to the engineering industry.

Last words

Rajat recommends students study BE/BTechs or ME/MTechs/MSc Eng to be successful in his industry.

‘My degree from the University of Hertfordshire taught me to always broaden my horizons and look at the bigger picture. Also, one should always be a good listener and learn from other people’s experiences.’

UH Alumni Indian Chapter

Rajat is the UH Alumni Ambassador for alumni living and working in India. Please contact Rajat if you would like to get involved in the UH Alumni Indian Chapter, or help with student recruitment in India: alumni@herts.ac.uk or Rajat at: rajatjhalani@hotmail.com.
Find Rajat’s company at: www.saaeein.com.

My time studying for an MBA at UH instilled in me the spirit of entrepreneurship, which encouraged me to set up my own company from scratch.