I really love education



Evi Saliman

combined a Bachelor's in Language and Cultural Studies and French Language and Culture at Utrecht University with an educational minor, and obtained her Master's in Intercultural Communication last year. She now works at Edufax.

text Inge Oosterhoff
image Robin Alysha Clemens

Evi Salimans (25) used to want to be a teacher. Although she didn't end up in the classroom, she does work in the education sector. Salimans chose a degree programme that reflected her interest in language, culture and education. Her current job as Educational Mobility Consultant at Edufax offers a perfect mix of those three fields. She advises and supports expat families in the process of finding suitable education for their children.

So how did you come to choose your degree programme?

"Language and Cultural Studies reflected my broad interests, and offered a great opportunity to take French. Unfortunately, I couldn't do an educational minor, so I took a separate Bachelor's in French. The Master's in Intercultural Communication allowed me to explore my favourite Bachelor's subjects in greater depth."

Did you do anything else to prepare for this career?

"I taught Dutch at a primary school in French Guiana as a part of my Bachelor's work placement. It was my first ever teaching experience, and I discovered I loved education and wanted to make it a career."

How did you manage to build your current network?

"I don't consciously network, but I am active on LinkedIn. In fact, that's where I first came across Edufax. I always add any interesting people I meet so we can stay in touch."

So, how do you look back on your time at UU now that you've started your working life?

"It's only now I'm finding out how many valuable things I learned during my studies. My job involves preparing educational recommendations for families relocating to countries with a different language and culture. My knowledge of intercultural communication really comes in handy. My ability to think from different perspectives and research skills are obviously helpful as well."

So what's next?

"I'll be staying with Edufax as long as I enjoy the work and can keep growing. I'm not sure what my next career move will be, but it will probably be related to education in some way."

A longer version of this interview will also be published on DUB, Utrecht University's independent news site. Visit <u>dub.uu.nl/en</u> for all the latest news and background information on our academic community.



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