

THE English language continues to play an integral part in our daily lives, since the ability to communicate effectively is essential in any career path.

At UCSI University, the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) English Language and Communication (ELC) programme is designed to teach students who do not speak English as a first language to speak it as a second Language for professional employment.

Students who are learning English as a second or additional (foreign) language would develop graduate-level communicative competence in the English Language, and be able to use it effectively.

Career opportunities are abundant for individuals with a degree in English because skills gained from this field can be applied easily to many career areas. Graduates with strong communication skills, are able to think clearly and critically, analyse and interpret data, and communicate results effectively to employers.

UCSI University also emphasises soft skills, which are vital in today's work environment. Thus, students are encouraged to organise, produce and act in school theatre productions, and manage events and projects that simultaneously hone their group creative thinking abilities. These processes also help boost their confidence.

Recently, students from the ELC programme staged a successful rendition of Shakespeare's classic, *Twelfth Night*,

Improve your communication skills



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humorously entitled "Il+Ith Nite Twisted Tale". The play's modern twist and artistic quality awed the crowd and had them in stitches. Preparations for the play began several months ago, involving many hours of rehearsals.

Second-year ELC student, Vincent Paul Jordan Rodriguez, who played the role of Duke Orsino said that organising the play was a lot of hard work, but a lot of fun too.

"I really challenged myself to be the

best I could be as I rehearsed for the play. The response we received made it all worthwhile," he said as he also gained invaluable skills about how to manage and promote an event.

Graduates from UCSI University's English Language and Communication programme have wide career choices in many different fields; from becoming advertising copywriters, to creative writers, corporate communications executives, childcare specialists and consultants.

Lim Su Ann, a recent graduate among the 1,346 at UCSI University's 22nd convocation, its first as a full-fledged university, plans to be a lecturer when she completes her Masters degree. She has already won a place at Reading University in the United Kingdom.

"I love teaching, and I feel that the ELC programme at UCSI University is the perfect stepping stone in that direction."

To find out more about the programmes and activities, drop by at UCSI University and talk to their counsellors. Contact them at 03-9101 8880 or visit www.ucsi.edu.my