

Lydia Ratna - Jakarta, Indonesia

Why Edmonds? "The Writing Center helped a lot. I practically went there every day the first year or so."

Lydia Ratna had always wanted to study abroad. After her junior year in high school in Indonesia, she came to Edmonds Community College, where she earned her Adult High School Completion and Associate of Arts degrees with honors.

She worked as a copy editor for the student newspaper, *The Review*, and was on the design committee for *Between the Lines*, the college's art and literary magazine. Her experiences at Edmonds gave her the information and skills she needed to be successful at the University of Washington when she transferred for her bachelor's degree in journalism and English literature.

At the UW, Ratna has written for the alumni magazine and *The Daily* newspaper. She expects to graduate this June and hopes to go on to graduate studies and eventually earn her Ph.D. "My mom wanted to become a doctor but she couldn't even afford to finish high school (in Indonesia)," Ratna said.

"For many people, the mindset is still that daughters don't need to go to university. Since I like to go to school, my mom pushes me to go for as long as I like and to get the highest degree."

