

PhD Vlog Week 1 Adriano Marinho

SPEAKERS

AM: Adriano Marinho

TIME	SPEAKER	DIALOGUE
00:00:00	Adriano Marinho	Hi, everybody. Today, I will tell the story of how I ended up here in Australia, a bit of my relocation process, and how it is to study here. So let's begin.
00:00:24		First, why did I suddenly decide to come here to Australia? Well, that was actually not 'suddenly'. Back in Brazil, I was looking for an academic position, but most places would require a PhD degree, which of course I didn't have. I was not sure about doing a PhD in Brazil, because I had a good job and I knew PhDs were not really there.
00:00:48		But then I was like - 'If I really need this degree, I better do it overseas, where I can.' So I applied to England before applying to Australia, but the Brazilian government denied my scholarship. I was really frustrated and feeling defeated, but then I talked with my best friend, and she suggested me to talk with a supervisor and apply for a scholarship here. She told me that Australia was a good country with friendly people, and that you were offered a good workplace. So I talked with a supervisor, I applied, and fortunately uni granted me a scholarship.
00:01:34		So yeah, I got my scholarship, but how was my interview? Before applying, I need to be accepted by my future supervisor, so I texted my best friend, I arranged a Skype call with him, where we could talk about what I wanted to study, about the pitch itself, and how to apply for this scholarship. The tricky part was what I wanted to study, because I had no specific idea - all I knew was that I wanted to change my area of study, because I was tired of dealing with biometrics. I was very, very nervous on the interview day, and he noticed that, but fortunately he liked me and he suggested me some ideas about what to research. And see, I was not lucky on my first PhD interview - I got refused in England, because I didn't have an idea about what to study, and the professor felt that I was not reliable. So a great tip is - have in mind what

		you want to study before setting up an interview with a potential supervisor.
00:02:44		So moving here was not that simple. After earning my scholarship, I still have to apply for a visa. The good part is that I did not have to pay for the visa, because I had the scholarship, but I still had to go to another city to do some medical exams, and these exams were not that cheap. After earning my visa, I could pay for the flights, and I started to look for student accommodation. When I was about to move to actually make a contract with student accommodation, my friend told me that I could move to her place, and that was great, because not only does she live by the beach, but also student accommodation can get really noisy and you don't get to choose your room-mates in student accommodation. So I was prepared to move to the beautiful Mooloolaba Beach.
00:03:53		After winning my scholarship, I had five months to prepare to travel, but I felt that moving to Australia was real only when I got to the plane. It was a bit scary. When I finally arrived in Australia, I was excited, confused, anxious, tired, all at the same time. It was really strange to see all the signs in the streets in English, but I knew that I would eventually get used to them. I was also a bit scared about speaking English, because I couldn't understand people in the airport, and I was like - 'Is there something wrong with me?' But no, the truth is - no matter how much we study, you have problems with language, accents and local expressions. So relax, because you get used to the language with time.
00:04:52		So let's talk a bit about how it is to do a PhD here. The main difference with doing a PhD here instead of doing a PhD in Brazil is that we don't have classes here. That means that we spend most of our time in the lab doing research, and this is how the lab looks.

00:05:40		<p>Having classes here was one of the main factors that attracted me to do the PhD, because in Brazil, we have to attend the class – of course, we get approved on them and also do our research, which can be really tiring.</p> <p>The other difference is that I feel that PhDs are more varied here. Every now and then, I see people from industry wanting to do PhDs here, whereas in Brazil PhDs are more restricted to academics.</p>
00:06:00		<p>And that's all for today's video. I hope you enjoyed it and I hope everyone comes back for next week's video. So see you soon. Bye.</p>

END OF TRANSCRIPT