

# Millenia Trindade

## Biology

### KNB Scholarship Awardee

*Timor Leste*



When I was in senior-high school I never thought of going abroad, living far from my family and friends. I just wanted to continue my study at local universities that were the same as my friends and chose a major that I like. Until one day some of my cousins got scholarships and went out to study abroad, since that they always encouraged me to go out of my comfort zone. However, after several attempts I kept failing. **Thankfully there were my parents that always supported me, no matter how many times I failed. This made my desire to be able to study abroad even stronger.**

I am very grateful that I can fulfill my desire through a scholarship provided by the Ministry of Education and Culture so that I have the opportunity to **meet and get to know many amazing people and learn many new things.**

I didn't really experience culture shock when I arrived in Surabaya, because some habits of people here are similar to my country. **One thing that has really amazed me until now** is people here that like to eat spicy food. For me, it is quite difficult to get used to food here, which I think a lot of them are very spicy for me that intolerant of spicy food.

Apart from that, **people here are very friendly and often greet you or invite you for small talks**, I also felt the same in first time I study at ITS, when i was at my first year there were several courses that require us to be in class with students from other department and they always help me when i have trouble in learning.

During my study at ITS, I faced several difficulties such as a different curriculum and academic language that I thought will be the same as what I learned before in UPT Bahasa (Language Technical Implementation Unit) but it turns out it's quite difficult for me. However, **I am very grateful to be surrounded by people that help me adapt at ITS.** They help me with both academic and non-academic activities, and also teach me Indonesian and Java language.

I like it when some of my wishes become true one by one, though not all of them. It's exciting when **I can join the student organization,** become a committee member in some events although I have limitations, especially in language and the most important is I can meet and establish relationships with new people. **These moments are very invaluable for me!**

Don't hesitate to come and **make your dreams come true at ITS.** People here are very friendly and ready to help us, especially as foreign students with various limitations. The sense of kinship that people here have can **slightly reduce our longing when away from our families and friends.**

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