

# Steven Pack

## Bachelor of Information Technology

### What is your role and what does it involve?

CEO and Co-Founder of [KoalaSafe](#), parental controls across all devices with an easy smartphone interface. We give parents back control of the internet, to prevent internet gaming addiction, block inappropriate content and provide insight into their children's internet use.

### How did your experience at UTS help you with your career?

First and foremost was that I knew exactly how the "real world" worked even during my first year, thanks to the industry experience.

Nearly every subject I studied went on to have some practical application. I distinctly remember writing an http server in C, thinking, "*Why on earth are we doing this when there are more modern languages like Java out there?*". Fast forward 15 years and I'm working with embedded devices in what language? C.

The BIT course specifically helped due to the business subjects. I was more interested in code than accounting or marketing, but as CEO of a small company, having grounding in those subjects has been a huge help.

### What was the best thing about studying at UTS?

I have lots of good memories of Uni, both social and academic. I lived at Bulga Ngurra Student Housing, and those early years were formative in my life. I remember staying up till late in the night debating politics, IT stuff, you name it - Uni wasn't just academic.

Studying with my now co-founder and CTO, Adam Mills was a great thing as well. We learnt then how to work together, how to manage teams and how to GSD - startup speak for Getting Stuff



CEO & Co-founder

KoalaSafe

*"I've worked and travelled the world on the back of my IT skills. The USA, UK, Denmark - computer science is the same language all over the world."*

Done.

**What advice would you give to students thinking of studying IT?**

We used to say IT is the future. It's now the present AND the future. Every single business needs IT, so whether you're an entrepreneur looking to start the next Apple, or wanting to climb the corporate ladder to CIO, CTO or CEO, IT skills will stand you in good stead.

If I were to have my time again, I would taken some more elective on design as well. To be able to design beautiful products and user experiences AND be able to execute on your vision is a truly valuable skill.

Finally, I've worked and travelled the world on the back of my IT skills. The USA, UK, Denmark - computer science is the same language all over the world.