It has been a very fulfilling first year at Queen Margaret University (QMU)’s MSc Music Therapy course. I did my first clinical placement at a residential care home, working with people living with dementia. Thanks to the supervision I received at placement and at University, I have learned a lot and gained some confidence as a music therapy trainee. Over the recent few months, I have had the chance to reflect on my experiences, consolidating what I have learned into assignments and presentations.

This year I served as Class Representative and had the opportunity to take part in student-staff and programme committee meetings, enabling me to better understand how my course was structured and conducted. I also contributed a video to share my experience of studying at QMU, which can be found here: https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/student-stories/shuying-hu-msc-music-therapy/

Besides study, my classmates and I also found time to do some Christmas Caroling in the University canteen in December. We were glad to spread some Christmas cheer and delighted to collect some donations for the Music Therapy Charity!

During the summer, I will be going back to Singapore to spend time with my family and friends. I have also arranged for music therapy observations at various health settings in Singapore. I’m really excited to have a chance to observe how music therapy is done back home and look forward to the experience.

Making a mid-career switch and returning to study has been a huge task for me, but I am so glad I took up the challenge. I am very grateful to have received the MA Bursary from the Music Therapy Charity, and for the support I have received from the teaching team at QMU. I have finished the year with an average of distinction overall in my assessments and look forward to my second year of study at QMU.