



**Degrees@Work**  
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## Video transcript

# **Samantha Ducasse testimonial**

My name is Samantha Ducasse. I am the wife of Casburn Spencer, who works at Arrico Dodge in West Palm Beach.

My husband was introduced to it at his workplace and he started discussing it at that time. I was only visiting him in the U.S. because I was living in Jamaica. And he told me that family members can be a part of it as well. So I actually started the program from Jamaica.

I got interested because it offered the opportunity to do what you want to do in your life. And, at the same time, earn a degree that would be paid for by somebody else. So that's why I got very interested in the program because it offered the flexibility for you to achieve your degree while you do everything else with your life.

Because I am from another country at the time I was enrolling in the program I did not meet the U.S. requirement because I did not have a U.S. GED. I have college credits from back home and they applied portions of my credit to the program. But for the enrollment aspect I had to do the GED. So I was helped by my enrollment coach, who showed me how to go about getting the GED, and I was given the time to do it. I was allowed to do it while I was still enrolled in the program. So that was a good help so I could start my program but I will get a GED within a certain amount of time and that was helpful. I was able to stay in Jamaica and make contact with my enrollment success coach. If there's any question I had to ask I was able to get answers for it.

Oh, no, it was not my first time with online courses, but I must say that my experience before and this experience is very different in that Strayer has streamlined their online platform. The pace at which they work is more flexible.

Before, what I had, even though it's online, it was more, you know, stressful. With this you have an 11-week period in which to go through each semester and it just feels a lot less stressful so it's easy for people to get what they have done. And I think as well that Strayer's professors are very flexible. So it's really different.

Well, I'm not working, but for me personally it's an achievement and I'm really trying to rebrand myself with this degree, and I'm hopeful. It's my plan to use it to get into an area that I've always admired, which is project management. So I might not be using it at this moment, but personally it's an achievement for me.

I would tell somebody who wants to get involved in the program that they should do it because this is an opportunity that they can use to improve on their life skills. They can do it to advance in their career. They just need to put in some work and be purposeful. This is a really great program that can help people who want to achieve that which is unattainable by many. So I would encourage anyone to just do it. And remember that it will take some experience to actually get through. It's really beneficial.