



Degrees@Work

POWERED BY STRAYER UNIVERSITY

Video transcript

Zachary Huffman testimonial

My name is Zachary Huffman and I currently work for a Chrysler dealership in Raleigh, North Carolina, and I was a low-level technician working on cars every day making paycheck to paycheck and I ended up earning a Bachelor of Science Information Systems with a concentration in cybersecurity management.

Actually, one of my service managers at this current location mentioned it and he was going to take it. A few of us were taking it at the time and I was pretty excited about finishing and completing my bachelor's, so I went ahead and did as well as I could and got it taken care of.

Well, tell you the honest truth, my first couple days taking the course and up to that, I was pretty nervous because I wasn't sure exactly what I was expecting. I did try online courses at a local technical college and it didn't work out because I just didn't have the help I had through this program at that location. In this program everybody involved helped me so much that I was able to complete the degree with no problem.

The first step was talking to the Strayer coach and they were able to help me sign up for the proper classes and go through what classes I needed to take to finish the program. They were able to set me up with the allowance to receive the books I needed and the supplies. They helped me to set up my first class to make sure I had enough information to view everything and get all the assignments done properly.

The pace is actually pretty good. I work full time and I only have nights and weekends to actually work on homework assignments and papers and stuff. And for me the pace was actually really good because I could do it on my own free time. If I want I do a little bit during lunch, like the discussions, and then the papers at night or on the weekends. It really worked with my schedule all together.

Trying to balance school and work, especially when you're working full time, can be difficult. You just got to set aside a little extra time each week to make sure all your assignments are completed depending on how much you have to do that week. Not every week is as hard as the next but it really worked out because I work Monday through Friday, so I have my weekends free, and I was able to complete my assignments on the weekend and do my discussion earlier in the week.

Receiving a bachelor's has pretty much opened a new door to available jobs in the computer field that I wouldn't have had a chance to get before because they're looking for people with the proper education to jump in those fields. If you don't have a knowledge, then you're not going to be able to change working on cars to going on computers.

There were expenses that I needed to pay for myself for the program to work properly. I did have to have access to the internet, a Wi-Fi connection of some sort. And also I had to have my own laptop or desktop computer to access the online portion. Being online, I was able to do most of my papers or anything in Microsoft Word and just upload them directly.

If some employee asked me about Degrees@Work, I would say there's no doubt in my mind—there's no reason that you shouldn't at least try it. It's an excellent program that just helps you complete your bachelor's or master's or whatever degree that you feel you need to get.