

“Academic Upgrading made me who I am”

“My name is Leighton, a Jamaican Canadian who migrated to Canada many years ago. I was a slow learner from public school through high school; but I remember one teacher who challenged me to do better and simply said, ‘try a little bit harder.’

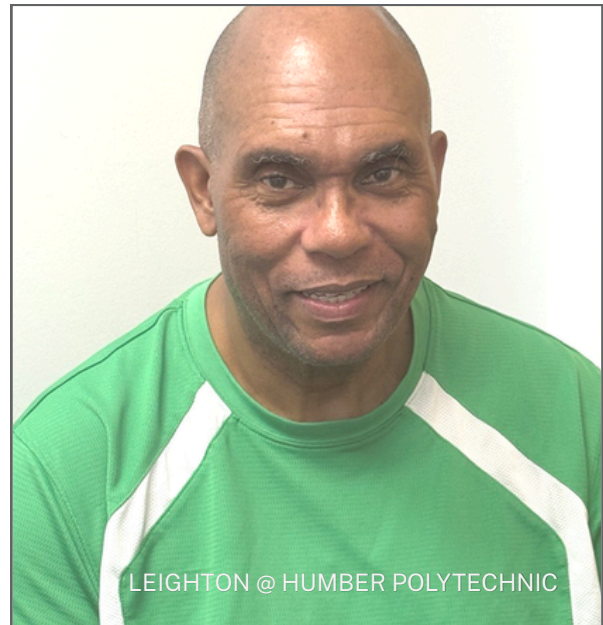
My grades were below average most of the time. But I accepted her challenge and started studying, putting my all into it. I went from 50% to 90%, so I knew there was always something inside of me and someone had to get it out.

I excelled in sports and that took me places. Still, there was something missing. Even though I graduated from high school, I never went to college.

When I found out that Academic Upgrading could answer my vision, it was a dream come true. But rekindling my academic career was a challenge.

Although I was out of school for over forty years, the AU classes gave me confidence that I could accomplish almost anything. The barrier of illiteracy that plagued me for many years has gone, so Academic Upgrading got the best out of me and being around the campus with the other students made me feel appreciated.

My goal is to become a writer and Academic Upgrading has provided that avenue to connect me to postsecondary education.



There were ups and downs but all the resources were at my fingertips. Plus, with my determination, success is just around the corner.

All in all, my advice for returning students is that you're never too old or never too ahead in life to make a change, even to accomplish that dream and aspiration you had many years ago.

Now is the time, but don't look at the time, just get involved with the time, do the time, and your achievements will be right on time.”

— Leighton, Humber College