



Days looking bright for Middlesex Community College graduate

Jeffrey Day is an MCC graduate now attending UMass Lowell.

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Jeffrey Day has always been interested in how things work, spending his free time taking things apart and figuring out how to fix them. That passion led the Lowell native to attend Greater Lowell Technical High School, where he majored in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, or HVAC.

“In high school, I was always encouraged that I could open up my own business because I was always willing to take initiative and kept this willingness to learn more about my craft,” Day said. “Every chance I had, I wanted to demonstrate how much I knew about the trade. I was determined to stand out in my class, and my teachers helped me get to that point.”

Having learned his craft well, the next step after graduating from Greater Lowell Tech in 2016 was learning more about how businesses operate. That led Day to study Business at Middlesex Community College.

Day struggled with financial hardships and finding a way to continue working as a service technician for a Lowell-based plumbing and heating firm, where he has worked since his junior year of high school, while furthering his education. With help from staff at MCC, he was able to make it happen.

He graduated in May 2019 and credits MCC with helping him find his path and build his confidence.

“When I started at MCC, I was unsure about what pathway I wanted to pursue, but one of my first professors, John Femia, assisted me with a pathway that would help me transfer more easily,” Day said. “A lot of the things he taught me, I still use today, and he’s been great with helping me with recommendations.”

Day, 21, said he grew as a person and was able to make personal and long-lasting connections while attending MCC by taking advantage of opportunities and joining clubs like the Outdoor Adventure Club and Running Club, as well as serving as president of Asian Students in Alliance, or ASIA.

“A lot of the events I did attend, from informational sessions, cultural meetings and entertainment, gave me a chance to talk to people that I normally would not talk to,”

he said. "I learned some new information. At MCC, there is a place for everyone. No one should feel left out."

Day said he felt more dedicated to his studies than he did in high school because he was genuinely interested in learning more about the subject matter of every course he took and because the professors found ways to engage him.

"My professors helped me develop skills like public speaking, managing teams and finding ways to think out of the box," he said.

Following graduation from MCC, Day transferred to UMass Lowell, where he is pursuing his Bachelor's degree in Business Management.