Ocean County Vocational Technical School

Buy Local, Hire Local

Sharing Success Stories

Student: Luis V. Lugo   **Class of**: 2014
OCVTS Program: Computer Science   **Center**: Toms River
Instructor: Michael Clarke
Employer: United States Army

In Luis' own words... My life after OCVTS, ever since graduating high school and vocational school back in 2014, I have been fairly busy trying to plan for goals and accomplish various things in my life. Two years ago, I would have never thought of serving in the US Armed Forces, but after quite some consideration, I have decided to go forth and take the oath of protecting our great country. I knew that my instructor, Mike Clarke, had previously served in the United States Air Force. That inspired me to enlist, and change my life for the better. I am currently in the U.S. Army serving overseas.

Eventually, I plan on taking college courses sometime in the near future, striving for a bachelor's degree in computer science. Most likely, I will have to wait until my active duty contract expires, when I will be living back in the states. I am okay with that; I'd rather attend college on-campus than online. I feel it is important to have a great college experience without the constant "distractions" of the military. So far, I have been achieving several goals. One I plan on reaching is earning that degree and working in a computer-related field. Sometimes on the weekends, I code little snippets of lines in a select few IDEs (GameMaker: Studio, Visual Studio Community, Notepad++) for the sake of retaining some of what I learned back in vocational school and learning how to have my objects work as intended.

Once in a while I will dabble in graphic design, hoping to improve the quality of my art and animation for use in the future. Other than that, I am either working or taking a break from it all, enjoying the landscape and exploring different cultures around me.

Michael Clarke, teacher of the Computer Science Program at OCVTS, proudly stated, "Luis was a NJ STARS recipient, and earned the President's Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence. These accolades were well-deserved because Luis completed the program notably as an excellent programmer and web developer. He enjoyed it. Luis was an intelligent, outgoing, friendly student. He was always offering his help to other students…that not only gives you an insight into the kind of student Luis was but the kind of person he aspired to be!"