



**PROFESSIONAL
& GRADUATE
STUDIES**

Video Transcript

VIDEO TITLE: GROW IN THE WORLD OF BUSINESS AT SNU

Stephen Sharp: I am Stephen Sharp.

Stephen Sharp: I am a Tech Sergeant in the United States Air Force. I've been active duty for eight and a half years.

Stephen Sharp: I tried out college right out of high school. As an eighteen year old trying to figure out what's going on with life I was working and going to school full-time. So I didn't get that university experience that a lot of people get. I just never quite felt that same connection because I didn't have that community there.

Stephen Sharp: So I dropped out after a semester I mean I was just working pay check to pay check. And, uh, I just really felt like there was just something more. I really wanted to serve. And in 2010 I decided to join the military. It has been great since.

Stephen Sharp: Whenever I joined the military I was like I'm never going to college again. I don't have to. But whenever I got a family and I met my wife while I was in the military and now I have my son and so the decision to go back to college was solely based on how, how can I better myself in order to better my family.

Stephen Sharp: This degree would propel me into a job on the outside as a civilian, but if I decided to stay in that degree is going to help me in that aspect too. In the military that is becoming an officer.

Stephen Sharp: I knew I wanted to sign up I just, whenever you've been out of college for so long you don't even really know where to start. There's just so much that goes into trying to get back into school and back into the groove and like the whole setting can be intimidating. Even for someone who has been deployed downrange and it's like, this is a completely different animal.

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Video Transcript, contd.

Stephen Sharp: I chose SNU for a few reasons. They offered something that a lot of other colleges didn't. They offered a place that I could go to school in the evening times after hours after work and still be able to complete my degree in a reasonable amount of time.

Stephen Sharp: Whenever I saw that the VETS Center was an option on the website I immediately gave them a call.

Sherri Eaton: Hi, I'm Sherri Eaton.

Stephen Sharp: Stephen Sharp

Sherri Eaton: Nice to meet you, go ahead and have a seat.

Stephen Sharp: The VETS Center was super helpful they helped me with organizing my tuition assistance through the military, my Montgomery GI Bill, um, getting set up with my OL Program. From the minute I applied to the minute I was in class it would not have been as smooth without the people helping me through the process.

Stephen Sharp: One thing great about the VETS center, I know that some of them in there have been previous military or they worked closely with military for a long time. It's almost like I'm not leaving my community in the military. They're able to have that conversation with me where we can meet on the same level. Where we actually understand each other.

Stephen Sharp: Having people your age going through it really helps too. It's like a home with all your best friends there too. I am graduating this semester from SNU with a Bachelor's in Organizational Leadership.

Stephen Sharp: It feels amazing. I've completed a lot of things in my journey through my career in the military but never, never this big. Just, it gives me chills just thinking about it honestly.

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Stephen Sharp: As I complete this degree I am wanting to take that next step into the Officer Core. And so that gives me , its going to give me a whole new level of leadership. Now I'm going to be able to lead an entire group of people I'll be able to cast a vision instead of for a smaller, but a bigger vision for other people.

Stephen Sharp: That is just the beginning and, uh, I wouldn't have been able to do it without SNU and the VETS Center.