

Just want to let everyone know how nervous I am, so please bear with me. I am very honoured to have been asked to be one of the valedictorians.

I was picked because I never missed a class, I participated, and the fact that I didn't even want to take this course at first...or speak in front of the class...they said I did a 180...and because of coming, I opened my mind and experiences to new heights.

I would not have even considered going for my grade 12....so more or less, I have a positive story to be told about Humanities 101.

I am going to be sad when this class is done.....and who knew? For someone who didn't really want to go at first...actually thanks to my brother Ray who convinced me that it was a great opportunity and to give it a chance.

On behalf of the class, I would like to thank everyone for joining us on this special day.

I have so many people to thank. The first one would be Donna Kelly, who recommended me for Humanities 101.

Next would be Vanessa, Nadine and John (our mentors) the facilitators who always made us feel welcome, and of course Riley, who always greeted us with a big smile, and we could always hear Riley exclaim.."Here she is" or "there he is".

Whether Riley knows this or not, hearing that always made my day. I will always remember that when I think of her.

Now of course, a big thank you to our Professor, James, there's not enough good things that one could say about James...He made all of us feel welcome, made class fun, and made us laugh with his great sense of humour.

Also my classmates which I got to share many stories and experiences with. I have become close to each and every one of you. Some I got to know very well, Gerry being one of them, She is an inspiration being the eldest in the class and then Mel, which I always looked forward to his stories, I learned a lot from him.

It's a very sad night to have to say goodbye to all of you. I was very hesitant on saying yes to join this class. At first, I told Donna that I don't even have my grade 12, how am I going to do a University course? All I can say is thank you, I am so glad I gave it a chance, and because of doing so, I have done things out of my comfort zone, as I did speak in front of the class, I thought outside the box, and made many friends along the way.

The BEST thing I got from this, is that it has made me realize that I CAN do it!! I am now trying to get my OSSD, my grade 12. This class opened doors for me and made me believe in myself. These are only some of the things I got out of Humanities 101. So I thank you again to everyone who made this possible.