

**Golden Globe Ocean Race 2018**

*Antoine Cousot talking about his study at the Open University*

**Contributor names**

Antoine Cousot

**Antoine Cousot:**

The first time I heard about the OU, it was during an Atlantic crossing. So I was sailing already. And I was the skipper, and we were going from France to the West Indies, somewhere in Arctic, I think.

And there's a guy on board. And every day, he was taking some book and reading. And we started to talk. And he'd say, I'm doing a course with the Open University. It's distance learning. And I'm doing oceanography right now. I said, wow.

And I started to look at the book and say, hmm, very interesting. And when we got back, I just jump on the web, browsing an Open University. What is that? And I left school very early with no certificate, nothing. So I found it was the right time to do something about education.

And when I went through the Open University, what they were offering, the tools, how easy it was just to jump into education, I just sign in. I say, why not? Maybe it's the right time for me. They got the right tool. It's the right time. Why not?

When I realized it was possible to go back to school and follow the courses with the OU while I was working around the planet and sailing, it sparked something in my mind. And then I've done my Bachelor, I've done my Master, and I was ready to jump onto the PhD, but the Golden Glove arises. And so I said, hmm, I can't do both. So I do the PhD after.