WELDING TECHNOLOGY

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE





THE PROGRAM

South Plains College offers an excellent welding technology program on the Levelland campus and at the Lubbock and Plainview Centers. The program is designed to provide you with the fundamental skills and technical knowledge used in today's welding and metal fabrication industries. The program emphasizes hands-on training using industry standard welding equipment. The Welding Technology program offers a one-year

basic welding processes certificate, a two-year advanced welding processes certificate and an associate degree. The program offers day and evening classes which provide a flexible schedule for those students who may work outside of class. The morning class meets Monday through Thursday 8:00 am – 2:10 pm and Friday 8 a.m. – 1:10 p.m. The afternoon class meets Monday through Thursday 2:30 pm – 8:30 pm and Friday 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm during the fall and spring semesters. A one-day-a-week class is offered at all three locations for those students interested in basic welding skills. Students who are enrolled in the full-time program spend two hours a week in the classroom learning welding theory. The remaining 28 hours a week are spent in the lab, applying the classroom knowledge to practical hands-on projects. The welding technology program is a participating organization in the American Welding Society's "S.E.N.S.E." program, "Schools Excelling through National Skill Standards". This program allows students to become certified as an AWS Entry Level Welder and AWS Level II – Advanced Welder. This is a nationally recognized program which consists of both written and hands-on tests of the student's knowledge and skill.

TRAINING FACILITIES

Levelland Campus

The Levelland Campus is equipped with 80 welding stations, 80 multi-process welding machines, oxy-fuel and plasma cutting equipment, metal fabrication equipment, and weld testing equipment.

Lubbock Career and Technical Center & Plainview Center

The Lubbock and Plainview Centers have 16 welding stations, 16 multi-process welding machines, oxy-fuel and plasma cutting equipment, metal fabrication equipment, and weld testing equipment.

PROGRAM OF STUDY

The Basic Welding Processes certificate offered at the Levelland Campus, the Lubbock Career and Technical Center and the Plainview Center. It is designed to be completed in two semesters and consists of the following six courses:

- Introduction to Shielded Metal Arc Welding
- Intermediate Shielded Metal Arc Welding
- Introduction to Gas Metal Arc Welding
- Introduction to Flux Cored Arc Welding
- Introduction to Gas Tungsten Arc Welding
- Introduction to Layout and Fabrication

The Advanced Welding Processes certificate is offered at the Levelland Campus and is designed to be completed in two semesters. This certificate consists of the following six courses:

- Advanced Gas Metal Arc Welding
- Advanced Gas Tungsten Arc Welding
- Intermediate Pipe Welding
- Advanced Pipe Welding
- Intermediate Layout and Fabrication
- Advanced Layout and Fabrication

An associate of applied science degree in welding technology is awarded to those students who complete the 12 courses listed above plus the following five academic courses:

- College Algebra or Contemporary Mathematics I
- Composition I
- Business and Professional Speech
- Language, Philosophy and Culture/Creative Arts Elective
- Social/Behavioral Science Elective

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN WELDING TECHNOLOGY

Job opportunities are plentiful in this demanding yet rewarding field. Whenever two pieces of material are fused or bonded together, that process requires the highly trained skills of the welder. In fact, the U.S. Department of Labor lists more than 140 occupations related to welding. You can build your career as a welder, educator, inspector, engineer, welding technician, business owner or sales and service representative. Successful welding careers can be available in such essential areas as manufacturing, maintenance, repair, design, research, sales and education.

The highly skilled welder can also find employment opportunities in industrial technologies such as aerospace, electronics, construction, oil and gas, automotive, shipbuilding, metalworking, nuclear and fossil power and food processing. New and emerging technologies such as robotics, computerization, plasma, laser technologies and others provide additional job opportunities.

Starting wages for welders are excellent, roughly three to five times the minimum wage depending on location and skill levels. The abundant opportunities in the field of welding and the excellent technical education found at South Plains College combine for exciting career opportunities in welding technology.

WELDING SCHOLARSHIPS

There are several scholarships available for outstanding welding technology students. See the scholarship guide for more information.

FOR MORE INFO:

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