Welding Technology

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Lee College offers welding courses that train and prepare students for today’s industry. Students reinforce their classroom theory through hands-on training. Four well-equipped laboratories support their welding instruction. By completing a minimum number of courses in welding, a student is able to earn a certificate of completion. With further studies, the student will obtain an Associate of Applied Science degree in Welding Technology.

The Program
The Welding Technology Program offers specialized welding courses which train and prepare students for today’s industry. Students reinforce their classroom theory through hands-on training. Five well-equipped laboratories support welding instruction. When industry officials bring their specific needs to the college, we customize a course to meet each need. Refresher courses, new process training or new procedure training are available. Among the area companies that send their employees to Lee College for training are ExxonMobil, Rohm & Haas, American Builders & Contractors, DuPont, and Shell. By completing a minimum number of courses in welding, a student can earn a certificate of completion. Lee College also offers an Associate of Applied Science degree in welding.

Career Opportunities
Welders usually work from blueprints or drawings. Welders permanently join metal parts of ships, automobiles, spacecraft, buildings, bridges, and other structures. They apply heat to the pieces to be joined, melting and fusing them to form a permanent bond.

Most welders work for manufacturers of durable goods such as boilers, construction equipment, motor vehicles, machinery, ships, appliances, and other metal products. Welders construct bridges, large buildings, pipelines, tunnels, and shipyards.

Welding Technology students that are able to pass a combination weld test in the 6G or 2G and 5G position will be successful and the probability of finding employment is 90 percent. Their salaries pay about $18/hour for S.M.A.W. structural and up to $35/hour for S.M.A.W. (Shielded Metal Arc Welding) and G.T.A.W. (Gas Tungsten Arc Welding) combination pipe welders. More information.

Inspection Technology students that have completed their inspection courses, and are able to pass the AWS-CWI exam through American Welding Society will be successful, and the probability of finding employment is 90 percent. Salaries for these employees are in the range of $40/hr.

Employment Outlook
Opportunities are available in the petrochemical manufacturing, contracting, and numerous other industries. Since welders are needed for many different industries, welders also have the ability to transfer to other industries when they are in high demand or leave declining industries. Jobs are not threatened by automation in comparison to others, as welding will always require skilled workers to operate machines and ensure that the product is safe.