

Building Trades - Carpentry



Technical Diploma – 30 credits

The building construction industry is one of America's largest industries and the skills of a well-trained carpenter are in high demand. Carpenters handle many different kinds of construction activity. They cut, fit, and assemble wood and other materials for buildings, highways, bridges, docks, industrial plants, boats and other structures. A carpenter's duties vary widely by the employer and nature of the job. Each carpentry task is somewhat different, but most involve the same basic steps. Working from blueprints or instructions from supervisors, carpenters first do the layout—measuring, marking, and arranging materials. They cut and shape wood and other materials using hand and power tools, and then join the materials with nails, screws, staples, or adhesives. The final step involves checking accuracy with levels, rules, and other instruments and making adjustments for a distinguished final product.

The Carpentry program provides students with the skills needed to successfully enter the construction industry. Through a blend of classroom theory and hands-on experience, carpentry students are trained to construct residential structures using both standard and sustainable building materials. Students become adept at using hand tools and portable power tools and learn to work with lumber, panel products, concrete, roofing materials, fasteners, and a variety of hardware. The hands-on skills needed for site layout and foundation work, rough framing, roof framing, and exterior and interior finish work is also developed. In addition, blueprint reading, math, and estimating components is studied.

Possible Careers

- Residential Carpenter
- Light or Heavy Commercial Carpenter
- Building Contractor
- Building Inspector
- Building Contractor
- Estimator
- Building Materials Sales Representative
- Drafting / Design

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Carpentry Program Outcomes

- 1) Perform general carpentry skills.
- 2) Use hand and power tools safely and efficiently.
- 3) Demonstrate sustainable building practices and material application.
- 4) Interpret technical information from blueprints.
- 5) Estimate materials and labor necessary to complete a building project.
- 6) Work as a productive carpentry team member.

Salary Information

The average wage was \$11.09 an hour for 2007 Wisconsin Technical College Carpentry graduates with an average annual salary of \$29,958. These rates typically increase with experience.

Curriculum	Credits
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Summer Semester

31-475-303 Construction Safety	1
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Fall Semester

31-475-301 Carpentry I	5
31-475-302 Carpentry II	5
31-475-308 Blueprint Reading	3
31-804-302 Applied Technical Math	2
	15

Spring Semester

31-475-304 Carpentry III	5
31-475-305 Carpentry IV	5
31-475-310 Construction Estimating	2
31-801-305 Applied Communications: Listen/Speak ...	2
	14

Students must have a grade of "C-" or better in any course to progress in courses which require that course as a prerequisite and a grade of "C-" or better in all core courses to graduate. A cumulative G.P.A. of 2.0 is required for graduation.



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