CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) programs prepare students by providing them with the entry or advanced level knowledge and skills critical for successful employment. Career programs offer an alternative route to acquiring career skills and to furthering an educational experience. Rio Hondo College’s CTE programs are designed to provide academic, career, and technical training that will lead to specialized employment, career advancement, and/or transfer to a university.

Spotlight

Architecture, Civil, Engineering Design Drafting (ACEDD)

The Architecture, Design, Engineering Design Drafting (ACEDD) programs offer classes that encourage, enrich, and develop your skills and interests in designing, creating, and inventing using the latest technology.

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DEGREES

Architecture, AS
- Architecture Design & Drawing, AS
  - Certificates
    - Architectural Drafting
    - Architectural Design & Drawing
    - Architecture Theory & Design
    - Residential Architecture

Civil Design
- Certificates
  - Civil Design & Drawing
  - Civil Design Technician

Construction Engineering Management, AS

Engineering Design & Drafting, AS
- Certificates
  - Drafting/Technical Drawing
  - Engineering Design Drafting Technician

View the ACEDD Video
Student Spotlight

Oscar Marin
Engineering Design Drafting Certificate, Fall 2021

I am pursuing a certificate in engineering design drafting. The biggest inspiration is being a positive example for my little brother and making my family proud. My favorite memory has been completing projects on AutoCAD. ACEDD faculty members have been helpful with giving insight on their paths to their careers.

Lycette Moran
Architecture Associate Degree, Spring 2022

I feel that I can apply my artistic skills towards my major, and I hope to add new skills towards a fulfilling career in architecture. I have many great memories of my educational journey, but I think my favorite was after finishing my final drawings for my ARCH 115 class. It was fun to watch my hand-drawn blueprints turn into computer drawings, and I felt like I had truly accomplished the first of what I hope will be many projects in the future as an Architect. I framed a copy of my drawing to remind me of how hard I worked to get to that point and how proud I am of my achievement.

I can feel the passion and the serious investment that RHC faculty/staff have to see their students succeed in whatever they wish to pursue. It’s wonderful to know that they care, and I’m lucky and honored to be here at RHC.

Hector Rios
Certificate in Surveying, Mapping and Drawing, December 2021

Land Surveying combines all my strengths and interests. I also foresee Land Surveying as a career where I can passionately take on challenges and grow professionally over a lifetime.

I’ve always performed well in Math and Science classes throughout my education, not to mention I also really enjoy drawing. Most of all, I’m fascinated by the field of Civil Engineering and how structures that support our everyday lives are built: buildings, roads, bridges, utilities, etc. I’m inspired to pursue a career in Land Surveying, specifically in Engineering Surveying, because of the vital role surveyors play in a building project; a common phrase in surveying is “surveyors are the first people on the project, and the last ones to leave.” I am also captivated by the powerful technical skills and evolving technology surveyors use, such as robotic total stations, AutoCAD & Civil 3D, UAV’s (drones), Geographical Information Systems (GIS), etc. The field of land surveying offers many opportunities for career growth, such as becoming a field technician, party chief, a Land Surveyor in Training (LSIT), and a Professional Land Surveyor (PLS), each with a promising wage to afford a good quality of living.
Farrah Nakatani
Associate Professor of Drafting and Design
Ms. Nakatani is a full-time instructor of the Architect, Civil, Engineering Design & Drafting Department (ACEDD). Ms. Nakatani attended Mt San Antonio College, where she received an associate degree in Engineering Technology. She transferred to complete her undergraduate studies in Industrial Technology at California State University of Los Angeles (CSULA). She pursued higher education degrees and earned a Master of Science in Engineering Management from California State University, Northridge. Before her career as an educator, Ms. Nakatani has spent over 20 years working professionally within the CAD (Computer-Aided Design) drafting and design industry.

Maurice Herman
Adjunct Faculty
Prof. Herman is an adjunct member of the Rio Hondo faculty. Professor Herman loves to draw. He is a subject matter expert who has taught Perspective and Rendering at Rio Hondo and other colleges for more than 20 years. He is the book’s primary author and illustrator. He was responsible for the manuscript's overall structure and much of its content - especially the manuscript’s step-by-step guides. His illustrations have appeared in numerous books, academic journals, newspapers and magazines including the New York Times and Architectural Record. He holds a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in Design from the California Institute of the Arts and a Master’s degree in Architecture from UCLA. His first job after graduation was as an apprentice to famed architectural illustrator Carlos Diniz.

Sean Hughes
Professional Engineer/Structural Engineering
Associate Professor, Architecture & Civil Design
A.A. Bakersfield College; A.S., Mt. San Antonio College
B.S. California Polytechnic State University

Jose Millan
Instructor of Drafting
A.S. Rio Hondo College
B.S. California State University, Los Angeles

Farrah Nakatani
Associate Professor Drafting and Design
A.A./A.S., Mt. San Antonio College;
B.S. California State University, Los Angeles
M.S. California State University, Northridge

Ricardo Alvarez
Instructor, Architecture/Engineering Design Drafting

Maurice Herman
Licensed Architect, Instructor, Architecture

Rodney Graham
Instructor, Engineering Design Drafting

Michael Marderosian
Instructor, Engineering Design Drafting

Ademar Saccone
Instructor, Architecture/Engineering Design Drafting

Gregory Sebourn
Professional Land Surveyor, Professor Civil Technology

Joseph Sunyogh
Instructor, Engineering Design Drafting

Carl Walls
Licensed Architecture, Instructor, Architecture

Dave Martin
Instructor, Architecture
System Planning, Engineering, and Coordinating (SPEC) Services, Inc. is a full-service engineering and design firm located in Orange County, CA, and serves clients primarily in the southwest and the western USA. We employ engineers in the mechanical, chemical, electrical, control systems, structural/civil, and fire protection engineering disciplines. In addition, we staff designers, drafters, right-of-way specialists, surveyors, and project support personnel.

We provide our services to the oil and gas industries, green energy projects, power industry, chemical processing industry, water/wastewater agencies, and city, state, and federal agencies, serving our clients and communities through responsive and effective system planning, engineering, and coordinating.

Founded in 1981, the company has stayed focused on providing the services that our clients need and want. We have over 200 qualified employees who are capable of providing detailed engineering designs necessary to construct and implement solutions for the clients’ systems.

SPEC Services’ commitment to Rio Hondo’s Advisory committee:

SPEC Services’ staff strives to support the education of current and future employees. We work to advise local colleges with industry knowledge by taking part in advisory committees whenever possible. We find it helpful to voice praise and/or concerns about a candidate’s skills.

Rio Hondo Students:

SPEC Services has a long history of hiring and advising Rio Hondo students. Rio Hondo’s ACEDD program has trained its students to be some of the top performers that come through our doors. The program has been able to prepare each student with great industry design skills. As a result, Rio Hondo is the first college to be contacted when design opportunities become available at SPEC. Throughout our partnership, we have had over 45 students work at SPEC Services, Inc.

Two notable RHC alumni:

Tim Price is the Mechanical Design Manager. Tim majored at Rio Hondo in Architectural Design. He oversees design quality, evaluating and hiring talent, and project management. The Mechanical design team works with energy clients who have refineries and pump & compressor stations to provide layouts of high-pressure piping systems. Tim has been with SPEC for over 28 years.

Frank Sevillano is the Pipeline Design Manager. Frank majored at Rio Hondo in Architectural Design. He oversees design quality, evaluating and hiring talent, and project management. The Pipeline design team works with energy clients who route pipelines in the public and private right-of-way and create GIS systems. Frank has been with SPEC for over 34 years.

Industry Partner Spotlight

Thank you!

We want to thank all of our industry partners for their invaluable feedback and support of our programs and students.

Absolute Accuracy, Inc.  
Architects Orange  
Architectural Window Shades  
Archway Systems  
Army Corp of Engineers  
Artisan Stone  
Beverly Hills Public Works & Transportation  
Brandow & Johnston Inc.  
California Polytechnic University, Pomona  
California State University, Los Angeles  
Casale Engineering  
City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works - Bureau of Engineering  
CJ Process Systems, Inc.  
CNC Engineering, Inc.  
Costa & Associates  
Curtiss-Wright Corporation  
Custom Coolers Inc.  
fad Designs  
HJ Construction  
IEG Engineering  
Innovative Engineering Group  
ISAT Seismic Bracing  
Jim Cass Construction & Welding  
JMC2 Civil Engineering + Surveying  
KETIV  
Lifestream Water System  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works  
Metropolitan Water District  
Moffatt & Nichol  
P2S Engineering, Inc.  
Port of Long Beach  
Precision Metal Crafts  
RMCA Architects  
Sanitation District of Los Angeles County System Planning, Engineering, and Coordinating (SPEC) Services  
Suburban Water Systems  
Utility Trailer Manufacturing Co.  
W2 Design, Inc.
Alumni Voices

Antonio Huerta
Associate of Science Degree in Architecture and Architectural Design & Drawing, Fall 2018

A relative of mine recommended that I pursue a career in architecture at Rio Hondo College. Faculty and staff provided the help I needed for me to complete my associate degree. The software/programs covered in each course are the ones I currently use in the field. Participating in group assignments in my classes has helped me work in a team on various projects.

My best advice to students is to keep on working at their goals no matter what the struggle and don’t be afraid to ask any of the faculty/staff members for help. Understanding the reasons why certain things work the way they do will make it easier down the road. If you are undecided on the path, you want to take, get all your general education out of the way and talk and research anything that catches your attention. I want to thank all the faculty/staff at Rio Hondo College for taking the time and showing me what I needed to do to accomplish my goals and graduate with a degree.

Milton Peraza
Associate of Science Degrees in Architectural Design & Drawing, Civil Design Technology and Engineering Design Drafting, Spring 2021

After five years of going to school and working full time, I completed my associate degrees in the spring of 2021. As an undecided student, I enrolled in a drafting class recommended by a counselor. After I finished the ENGT 101 class, I instantly knew that I wanted to be a person of everyday innovation.

I was able to stay focused and dedicated in college, even when I had to work full time, because of the patience and understanding of the ACEDD faculty/staff. I was given encouragement and motivation to continue my education. The skills that I have learned while I was in the program have helped me understand how to read and create drafting documents to use in workplace applications.

My current aspiration is to work at an entry-level drafting job for at least five years so I can increase my experience and skills as a drafter. My future aspiration is to open my own home and landscape remodeling business.

My advice for current students is to explore their interests and passions. Take the initiative and mix your schedule with different classes. Take a drafting class, a theatre class, or even join clubs that will give you a different perspective.

Edwin Ventura
Associate of Science Degree in Engineering Design & Drafting, Spring 2021

Engineering Design and Drafting was the degree that I accomplished in the Spring of 2021. Growing up, I developed skills in drafting, and as I got older, curiosity grew in taking it to another level that is a designing career. Some of my favorite memories from the ACEDD Program would be safely using the hands-on equipment in the department, helping the department’s club fair, and conversing with my colleagues and professors. By the way, actively participating got me to be around faculty and receive feedback and guidance from the professors. In addition, the ACEDD Program helped me develop skills for the work industry, and it prepared me well for my current job. I appreciate their support in my journey and in my academic path. I currently hold a drafter position for an MEP firm. I aspire to grow within the company to become a partner eventually. My advice to new students who are still uncertain about their career paths, reach out to faculty, talk to professors for advice and mentoring, be curious, and research different industries. They are more than happy to assist students in defining their academic path. One last thing I can leave you with is to research and read beyond what is given in the department about the skills and knowledge that are needed for the industry. Expanding your learning will take you a long way whatever industry you enter. You can do it!

Flavio J. Franco
Architecture Transfer Student, current Architecture Student at Cal Poly Pomona

I have always been artistically inclined and math has always come easy to me therefore architecture seemed like the right career. Plus, I love computers.

My favorite memory from one of my architecture classes was creating my own floor plans and elevations to a home designed. The skills in the ACEDD program has made my transition into more complex software we use in CPP a whole lot easier. I would like to thank all the faculty/staff and RISE counselors for helping prepare for the architecture program at Cal Poly Pomona.

For undecided students I recommend to focus on your strengths and your passions and choose a career that involved the use of both. Don’t wait, choose something, you can always change it later if it’s not the right fit, but you will have gained some skills. And doing something is always better than doing nothing! I would like to share that CPP is great and Rio Hondo got me there quickly!

View the 2021 CTE Division’s Graduate Celebration
New Accreditation

American Design Drafting Association has approved the ACEDD programs in the following certifications through August 8/30/2022.

Architecture
Apprentice Drafter
Drafter

The American Design Drafting Association is an international non-profit, professional membership and educational organization born in Bartlesville, Oklahoma in 1948. ADDA mission statement “Support and Prepare the Design Profession to Preserve the Past and Imagine the Future.”

High School Partnerships

Dual Enrollment Partners (courses offered at local high schools for college credit, Fall 2021)

**ENGT 101: Introduction to Technical Drawing & Graphics**
- California High School, Whittier Union High School District
- Mark Keppel, Alhambra Unified School District

**ENGT 150: Auto CAD for Basic CADD (Computer-Aided Design Drafting) Applications**
- Applied Technical Center, Montebello Unified School District

High School CTE Articulated Courses (High School Articulation is designed to help students make a smooth transition from high school to college or career training without duplicating classes)

**ARCH 115: Introduction to Residential Architecture Drawing and Design**
- Alhambra High School, Alhambra Unified School District
- California High School, Whittier Union High School District
- Santa Fe High School, Whittier Union High School District

**ENGT 101: Introduction to Technical Drawing**
- Baldwin Park High School (Baldwin Park Unified School District)
- California High School, Whittier Union High School District
- Mark Keppel High School, Alhambra Unified School District
- Santa Fe High School, Whittier Union High School District

**ENGT 122: Engineering Design Graphics**
- Mark Keppel High School, Alhambra Unified School District

**ENGT 150: Auto CADD for Basic CADD**
- Mark Keppel High School, Alhambra Unified School District
Special Thanks

The ACEDD Department would not be as efficient, flexible and available to our students without Mr. Ruben Agus and Mr. Caesar Hernandez, the backbone of the operation.

These gentlemen are the “behind the scenes” framework for the ACEDD Labs. During the pandemic, Mr. Agus and Mr. Hernandez have worked tireless hours in making sure that our students had remote access so that they were able to continue on with their education. We, the educators, would like to them know how much we appreciate their knowledge and services.
IETT Area of Interest

The majority of Career Technical Education Division Programs are part of the Industrial, Environmental, and Transportation Technology (IETT) Area of Interest.

The Industrial, Environmental, and Transportation Technology area of interest provide you with industry-certified degrees, certificates, and transfer opportunities in several career and technical fields.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYYaq9-2CO4

IETT Success
Coach Corner:

Hello, my name is Alexander Arebalo. I have worked in student services for over three years. I have greatly enjoyed working with students to meet their personal and educational goals through the different programs I have worked in. I aspire to start working more personally with my students by becoming a Counselor at the community college level.

College Tips:
1. Review your syllabus and Canvas for each class often, set reminders, and write out on a calendar when all exams and projects are due to see what overlaps and how to prepare yourself for success in the semester better.
2. Reach Out: Don’t be afraid to seek help from the tutoring center or take the time to go to your professor’s office hours. It is never a bad idea to ask even the simplest of questions. Send me an email at ctedivision@riohondo.edu

Funds for Automotive Students

The Río Hondo College Foundation has received a $10,000 donation for auto tech scholarships from the Greater Los Angeles New Car Dealers Association (GLANCDA). We want to thank GLANCDA for their continued support of both our associate and bachelor level auto students.

Important Dates

- Automotive Technology Program Advisory Meeting, 10/13/2021
- Bachelor’s Degree in Automotive Technology Advisory Meeting, 10/20/21
- Site Visit to SOFI Stadium for ACEDD Students, 10/25/2021
- Spring Registration Starts Mid-November 2021
- Welding Technology Advisory Meeting, 11/19/2021

Next Issue:

Alternative Energy Technology, Heavy Equipment Technology, & Welding Technology

Click to view the Virtual Interactive Tour of CTE Classrooms and Labs