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.

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- Heavy Equipment Technology
- Welding Technology
- Bus Stop Design Competition
- CTE Students Visit SOFI Stadium
- CTE Students Explore Teaching
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- Message from the Dean

Rio Hondo College
3600 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601
Heavy Equipment Technology (HET) Program

HET offers an associate of science degree and a certificate of achievement. The associate of science degree is currently being revised to meet the demands of industry. Students interested in HET can pursue the Heavy Equipment Maintenance Technician certificate program and become industry ready in as little as two semesters and one summer.

Heavy Equipment Maintenance Technician Certificate courses

HET 121 Introduction to Heavy Equipment Maintenance
HET 122 Introduction to Heavy Equipment Electrical and Diagnostics Procedures
HET 123 Introduction to Heavy Equipment Mobile Hydraulics
HET 124 Introduction to Heavy Equipment Powertrains
HET 125 Introduction to Diesel Engines, Fuel Systems and Emissions
HET 290 Cooperative Work Experience/Internship for Heavy Equipment Technology

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Source https://salariesurfer.cccco.edu/Salaries.aspx, December 2021

Heavy Equipment Technology

Faculty Spotlight

Marius Dornean

Heavy Equipment Technology Instructor
Rio Hondo College Alumni: AS Degree in Advanced Engine Performance

Mr. Dornean has extensive work experience as a heavy equipment mechanic. During his years in the field, he received numerous training certifications from many reputable foreign and domestic manufacturers such as Caterpillar, John Deere, Cummins, Clark, Ottawa, Taylor, Kalmar, Linde, Mitsubishi and many others. Mr. Dornean, due to his work ethic and experience, held positions as service manager until he started teaching full-time as a technical trainer/coordinator for a heavy equipment dealership and as a part-time smog instructor at Rio Hondo College. He transitioned over to full-time instructor at the college in 2011 as the heavy equipment instructor/coordinator. He is currently ASE certified in automotive and truck subjects.

Student Spotlight

Mr. Dornean would like to recognize the drive and perseverance of Jonathan Rios. Jonathan finished an HET internship during the summer with one of our industry partners, the company was so impressed with his knowledge and work ethic that he was hired as a full-time technician. Jonathan will be finishing the HET Maintenance Technician Certificate Fall 2021. Congrats Jonathan!

Industry Partner Spotlight

Coastline Equipment leads our industry by providing world-class equipment solutions, including brands like John Deere, Wirtgen, and Hitachi. Our advisory partner Mr. Ladd Blakely, Branch Manager from the Long Beach location has actively engaged with our students throughout his time on the advisory committee. He is committed to assist our HET program by providing classroom visits, event set ups and hiring students. We want to thank him for his active involvement in support of our heavy equipment students and programs.

Thank you to the Heavy Equipment Technology Advisory Members

Drew Balandis, Southwest Wear Parts Co, Inc.
Brent Litjen, Fed Ex
Jay Nossett, City of Whittier
Ladd Blakely, Coastline Equipment
Mike Lalonde, West Trax Machining
Hugo Mejia, Bejac

View the HET video!
Welding Technology

The welding program at Rio Hondo College offers an associate degree and a certificate of achievement that prepares students for industry certification. The program provides students with industry specific training that prepares students to excel as entry level welders.

Our program is taught by current industry professionals:
Alexander Angustain, Structural Welder for 30 years and hold Certifications in Structural Welding and Pressure Vessel Title IX.
Jan Banas, Welding Instructor/Educator with over 45 years of experience
Paul Ortiz, Boiler Pressure Vessel Code Title IX over 30 years of experience

The Welding Program offers a Welding Technology Associate degree and the LADBS Structural Steel Certification Program certificate of achievement.

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Source: https://salariesurfer.cccco.edu/Salaries.aspx, December 2021

Tips to Be a Successful Welding Student, by Mr. Alexander Angustain

- Reading skills - You will need to read class materials, manuals, blueprints, and industry certification exams
- Attention to detail, you must focus and learn each of the welding techniques to be successful in the courses
- Apply what you learn from the textbooks and lectures in the lab. Lab assignments are similar to work environments, repetition is key in mastering welding skills
- Work ethic - you must treat your classes as if it was your job, arrive on time, be prepared for both lecture and lab

The Welding program at Rio Hondo College will provide you with a supportive environment that will help you succeed in the welding courses as we as push you to gain the skills needed to start as an entry level welder

When can I start earning the big bucks?

At the successful completion of the welding certificate, you will earn entry level welding skills. You will need to start working towards building your experience and perfecting your craft. Usually, students start at minimum wage until they have gained sufficient work experience and industry certifications to apply to city, county or larger state/federal agencies. Give it time to build your experience and become competitive for higher paying jobs.

Welding Advisory Members, Thank you for your invaluable feedback

Peter Martinovich, Educational Consultant, Goodheart-Willcox
Dan Londo, President, Welding Certification Center
Martin Ceja, Shop Supervisory, Lawrence Equipment
Alexander Angustain, Structural Welder, Los Angeles County
Bill Steiner, Organizer/Recruiter, The United Association Local 398
Nelson Rodriguez, Teacher, South El Monte High School
Harold Torres, Senior Director Central Maintenance, LA Metro
Bus Stop Design Challenge

Rio Hondo College was part of an intercollegiate design competition during the 2021 fall semester. Students involved were working with the County of Los Angeles and Metro to “Reimagine Bus Stops in The First Supervisorial District”. The purpose of this project was to engage students with real-life hands-on experiences to connect classroom learning to real situational problems when it comes to design.

Under the guidance of Associate Professor Farrah Nakatani, Graphic Arts Major Jasmina Elysayed and Architecture Majors Fatima Barajas Serrano, Remberto Candelario, Joseph Ryan George, Lycette Moran, Jacob Perez and Marco Rodriguez were divided into two groups and each group came up with their own designs to present to the judges.

Winners were announced on December 8, 2021 and Rio Hondo College Group 2 was awarded Third Place. All student’s involved appreciated the experience and the knowledge they gained with this ‘real-life, hands-on’ adventure.

**Group 1 Design:**
(Jasmina Elysayed, Fatima Barajas Serrano, Joseph Ryan George, Lycette Moran)

**Group 2 Design:**
(Remberto Candelario, Jacob Perez, Marco Rodriguez)
CTE Division Students Visit SoFi Stadium

The Career and Technical Division Education had the opportunity to coordinate an industry site visit to tour SoFi Stadium. Faculty instructors Mr. Jose Millan and Ms. Farrah Nakatani and CTE Job Developer Mr. Aaron Perez were accompanied by approximately forty Architecture, Civil, and Engineering Design (ACEDD) students as they got to experience the beauty of the architectural style and the sustainable design of the NFL’s Los Angeles Chargers and Rams house. ACEDD students were informed and made aware of the vast and various details that went into the design of this $5.5 billion dollar stadium. From the canopy overhang roof design structure being built separately from the “bowl” of the stadium for earthquake safety purposes to the unique designs of the locker-room for each of the two Professional NFL teams housed under one roof and always keeping the need and desire of creating the “ultimate fan” experience throughout the design process. After the tremendously informative tour of SoFi Stadium, students were able to get the NFL experience by getting to run through the 60-foot tunnel hype room onto the turf where they got to experience on-field challenges - From kicking field goals, throwing football at targets, running the 40-yard field and testing one’s jumping ability. It was a great adventure for all and one that has already been asked for a repeat visit in the future.

CTE Students Explore Teaching

Have you ever thought of becoming a Career & Technical Education (CTE) teacher? If so, Rio Hondo has an opportunity for you to explore whether you have the qualities, passion, and grit to become a CTE teacher.

Januario Escutia, an automotive student at Rio Hondo has been a part of the Community Partnerships for Teacher Pipeline (CPTP) since Spring 2021. Under the guidance of his mentor, Andrew Gold, a Rio automotive instructor, Januario has assisted and applied his knowledge and skills in the classroom while getting first-hand teaching experience. Januario is passionate about helping his fellow students in learning his trade. “I have over 30 years of experience in the industry and I like to share my knowledge with the younger generations. I would like to assist other people to achieve their goals and become successful if they choose this field as career path.”

CPTP’s mission is to build a community-based teacher pipeline that strengthens the teaching profession by increasing the number of Teachers of Color. The program connects future teachers in Greater Los Angeles to enhanced advisory mentors and success coaches while providing career development activities and stipends. To learn more about the CPTP program and how to participate in the Spring of 2022, contact Mrs. Lea Martinez at lmartinez@riohondo.edu.

Visit our website at https://www.riohondo.edu/iteach/cptp-intro/.
Hello students and welcome to Rio Hondo College for the Spring 2022 semester!

My name is Mr. Olson, and I am the Faculty Liaison for the Student Success Team for YOUR area of interest (AOI, as determined by your chosen major. Basically, this is a fancy way of saying that I am the faculty representative for YOUR Student Success Team in CTE/IETT (AOI. Career and Technical Education (CTE) is the division that offers the Industrial, Environmental, and Transportation Technology (IETT programs.

As the faculty representative of your Student Success Team, my responsibility is to help you SUCCEED in attaining your academic and personal goals at Rio Hondo College, and to reach those goals as smoothly, efficiently, and cost-effectively as possible. Along with your other Student Success Team members, which include the Dean of CTE/IETT, division secretary, area-specific counselors, job developer, success coach, and dedicated librarian, I will strive to answer any and all questions related to your college experience.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me or your other Student Success Team members with ANY and ALL questions about registration, waitlists, books, financial aid, counseling, student services, extra-curricular activities, job opportunities, certificates and degrees, tutoring, or ANY other question or concern you may have regarding your time at Rio Hondo College. Again, we are here to help you SUCCEED, and that is what we want the MOST!

Please watch for important announcements and information posted in the *Finish Your Path! (CTE/IETT* Canvas shell, which is NOT A COURSE but an information hub for students with declared majors in CTE/IETT – Alternative Energy/Electronics, Architecture and Drafting, Automotive Technology, Civil Design, Geographic Information Systems, Heavy Equipment Technology, Honda PACT, Hospitality Management and Welding included. This resource will help you stay informed of important information that will help you SUCCEED in your college endeavors.

Again, my name is Mr. Olson and it is my pleasure to serve as the Faculty Liaison for YOUR student success team! Go Roadrunners!

**Mr. Eric Olson**  
Automotive Instructor  
eolson@riohondo.edu  
Office: T-126  Phone: (562) 463-7001
A Happy New Year to you and Welcome to a New Semester!

The CTE Division has continued to provide students with hands-on learning opportunities while following public health directives as directed by our college during this pandemic. Our students were able to complete the required lab hours and use the necessary technology needed to be successful in their CTE courses. In addition, students were able to connect with faculty in-person and online. I am proud of all the work that the CTE faculty and staff have done to keep our students safe during their collegiate journey. As we move forward into the Spring 2022 semester, we will continue to follow public health directives as we transition to fully in-person CTE courses.

Whether you are pursuing a degree or a certificate, the CTE faculty and staff are here to assist you as you obtain your academic and career goals. We have several degrees and certificates that prepare you for entry level careers as well as transfer opportunities.

We wish you and your family a safe and healthy 2022!

Mike Slavich
Dean of Career Technical Education & Instructional Operations

The Career Technical Education Division offers degrees and certificates in the following areas:

**Bachelor's of Science**
- Automotive Technology

**Associate of Science Degree for Transfer**
- Hospitality Management

**Associate of Science Degrees**
- Alternative Energy Technology
- Applied Geographic Information Systems: Civil Engineering Specialization
- Architectural Design & Drawing
- Architecture
- Automotive Technology
- Automotive/Advanced Engine Performance
- Automotive/Alternative Fuels & Advanced Transportation Technology
- Civil Design Technology
- Construction Engineering Management
- Electric Vehicle and Fuel Cell Technology Technician
- Electronics Technology
- Engineering Design Drafting
- Honda Professional Automotive Career Training Program Specialization - (PACT)
- Welding Technology

**Certificates**
- Advanced Engine Performance Technician
- Alternative Energy Technology
- Architectural Design & Drawing Technician
- Architectural Drafting
- Architectural Theory and Design
- Automotive Technology - Brake and Suspension Service
- Automotive Technology - Engine Repair
- Automotive Technology - General Service Technician
- Automotive Technology - Safety, Comfort, and Convenience Systems
- Automotive Technology - Transmission Service
- Automotive Technology-General Automotive Service
- Automotive/Advanced Engine Performance
- Automotive/Alternative Fuels & Advanced Transportation Technology
- Civil Design & Drawing
- Civil Design Technician
- Civil Design Technology - Surveying, Mapping and Drawing
- Drafting/Technical Drawing
- Electric Vehicle and Fuel Cell Technology Technician
- Electronics Technology
- Engineering Design Drafting Technician
- Geographic Information Systems
- Heavy Equipment Technology - Heavy Equipment Maintenance Technician
- Honda PACT: Acura Brakes, Suspension, and Chassis Electrical Systems
- Honda PACT: Honda/Acura Engine Repair and Engine Electrical Systems
- Honda PACT: Honda/Acura Heating and Air Conditioning Systems
- Honda PACT: Honda/Acura Power Train and Transmission Systems
- Residential Architecture Design
- Tesla Student Automotive Technician (START)
- Welding Technology - LADBS Structural Steel Certification Program

Students with industry experience may be eligible for credit for prior learning. Connect with us to learn more about this opportunity. Our introduction courses are offered spring, summer and fall. Find out more!

For more information, please call 562-908-3460 or email ctedivision@riohondo.edu

View our classrooms and labs via our interactive virtual tour

Career Technical Education Division (CTE) - January 2022
Happy New Year!

From the CTE Faculty and Staff