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NEW Programs Available
STARTING FALL 2012

RICE LAKE

CNC Machine Tool Operation

TECHNICAL DIPLOMA

“This program prepares graduates to work in a highly productive career in less than a year,” says Garry Krause, WITC academic dean, trade and technical division. “There’s a very high statewide demand for this position and the skills are very transferable.”

Students learn to set up and operate manual and computer numerically controlled (CNC) machine tools. They also learn to measure and inspect parts for accuracy. In addition, they learn to use computer-aided drafting (CAD) and computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) software programs to design and machine parts using LEAN manufacturing production model cells.

Skilled machine tool operators work in:

• Tool rooms
• Job shops
• CNC production facilities
• Modern manufacturing companies
• And more

Successful graduates have many opportunities to advance as they gain additional experience and training.

ALL FOUR CAMPUSES

Health Information Technology

ASSOCIATE DEGREE WITH EMBEDDED SPECIALIST DIPLOMA

Graduates will be able to code records for reimbursement, research and statistics and gather health information for multiple purposes. This is a growing career with a wide variety of opportunities.

Employment opportunities in health care are projected to grow faster than average, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, despite the sluggish economy. WITC will offer health information technology (HIT) at its four at its four main campuses the fall of 2012.

Embedded in the HIT program is a medical coding specialist diploma, which students may earn after one year. That provides the opportunity to enter the workforce while completing the final year of the HIT program for the associate degree.

Career choices for this degree include:

• Health Information Technician
• Reimbursement Coordinator
• Privacy and/or Security Officer
• Data Quality and Integrity Monitor

The HIT program is also ideal for those currently working in medical and clinical offices who want to advance in the field.

WITC continues its commitment to provide career-focused training with the addition of CNC machine tool operation, health information technology and medical office specialist.

ALL FOUR CAMPUSES

Medical Office Specialist

TECHNICAL DIPLOMA

“This program is a good option for people who are looking at the medical field, but want to work in an office or customer service capacity rather than in a lab,” says Leslie Bleskachek, WITC academic dean, business division.

Structured as a combination of medical office and computer skills, the program prepares students for the administrative side of health care.

Employment opportunities include:

• Physicians’ offices
• Clinics
• Hospitals
• Nursing homes and
• Other health organizations

Graduates can apply the diploma to the medical administrative specialist associate degree offered at WITC’s New Richmond and Rice Lake campuses.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment related to this field is expected to increase by 11 percent by 2018.

By Elizabeth Whitchurch

Information Technology Network Specialist

The information technology - network specialist program gives students the skills needed to perform network design, installation, administration and support for information systems.

Students in the IT-network specialist program at New Richmond have a common first year with the industrial automation, controls, and networking program and have the option in the second year to choose to complete the IT-network specialist program or the industrial automation, controls, and networking program.

WITC student places fourth in national competition

“In a typical geek,” he says. But Timothy Grabrian is anything but typical. A home-schooled high school grad from Hammond, Wis., is set to graduate from WITC in May with an associate degree in information technology-network specialist – and he’s No. 4 in the nation in the Cisco NetRiders Competition.

The competition is an annual contest hosted by Cisco, the predominant name in computer networking. Cisco is the worldwide leader in networking that transforms how people connect, communicate and collaborate. (Cisco is to the computer world what the alphabet is to the literary world.)

“This is an international competition among the top students in the Cisco Networking Academy.”

— Jeff Heathman, IT-network specialist

Jeff Heathman, WITC IT-network specialist instructor encouraged his students to take part in the three-part competition. The grand prize: an all-expense paid trip to San Jose, Calif., in January to tour Cisco headquarters, Stanford University and various sites of interest in Silicon Valley. And only the top four in the nation win, along with winners from other countries.

“I always felt confident going into each round, having studied a lot for the tests. While taking the tests, there were many questions I just knew,” Grabrian explains.

Grabrian’s scores in the first two rounds placed him Number One in the state. He then competed nationally (which also included several Canadian provinces) in the final round.

Time for the instant results: “As they were counting down from 10, I remember being concerned around 7 or 6 when I had not seen my name,” Grabrian says. “I was poorly or had done really well. I was stunned when I saw I had taken fourth place. I remember having to read the message on the screen multiple times before it began to sink in. Jeff gave me a high-five and said ‘Dude, you’re going to California!’

“My first reaction to Cisco’s headquarters was amazement,” Grabrian says. “It’s not so much one building but many, something like 48 buildings, spread across a large campus. Everything Cisco does is done on a large scale. But spending time getting to know people from other countries was really the best part!”

Back on campus at WITC, Grabrian’s finishing his final semester. Along with a full credit load, he works as an IT team resource at a local company and tutors students in his free time. Grabrian is no “typical geek” – extraordinary geek, perhaps.

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For more in-depth information, contact a WITC Admissions Advisor or visit witc.edu/programs.

*The U.S. and Canada NetRiders Theater Finale competition involved over 44 teams of Networking Academy students competing in a variety of activities, including a timed theoretical exam, a Cisco Packet Tracer network simulation activity and a Cisco Packet Tracer exam.