

# Welding and Fabrication Technology

Doug Rupik and  
Stephanie Oostman

DISCOVER



SEATTLE COLLEGES  
*North · Central · South*

# Welders Work With Hot Metals!



# Welding can take you places!

Welding and metal fabrication are stock tools of many trades. In the US, the demand for trained weld fabricators continues to rise in the small shop setting. The range of job opportunities and skill needs is diverse; including blueprint reading, layout, cutting and fitting parts, tack and production welding, finishing and material handling..





What does welding impact in your life?





- Students can work in industry realistic settings
- Students learn a variety of welding processes
- Students can work on personal projects: art, furniture, select vehicle projects
- Students are often recruited into industry by employers

# Instructor Stephanie Oostman



- I have been welding professionally since 2017
- My focus has primarily been as an Aerospace TIG welder.
- I graduated South Seattle College's Welding AAS program in 2017.
- I started soldering and fabrication with my father's marine shop in the early 90's.
- Teaching adults since 2012.



# Instructor Doug Rupik

- I have been welding professionally since 1989
- I have welded in repair and custom fabrication shops, on assembly lines in factories, and in construction
- I completed my apprenticeship with the Ironworker's Union in 2002, and have worked as a foreman and as a general foreman
- I have been an instructor in the Ironworker's Apprenticeship between 2007 and 2014, and an instructor in the state college system since 2010



South Seattle College now offers a Welding I-BEST program. Students achieving a CASAS score of 220 and who complete an interview with the instructor can enroll in our Fall Quarter Welding I-BEST cohort.





# One of our awesome afternoon students fabricating an infinity cube

If you could build a project for home, what would it be?



# Some students are artists





# Fashion is Essential!





You don't have to be a doctor or lawyer to be successful!



# Careers/Jobs

- The **BLS** estimates that the [job](#) growth rate for welders will be about **6** percent through **2026**
- The American Welding Society (AWS) predicts that **400,000** welders will be needed in the next few years.
- 60% of welders work in manufacturing
- 10% of welders work in construction
- The average welder hourly rate is **\$21.73** an hour nationally.
- Welding skills are transferable between various industries
- The Puget Sound area has many Maritime, construction, pipeline, manufacturing, and aerospace opportunities for welders.

# Education Pathway

- You can complete this program in 5 quarters (1 year, 3 months)
- We admit new students each quarter, including summer! Sometimes, class order is changed.
- We have a sister program at Vigor, that students transfer to and from.
- This program prepares you for entry-level welding employment, with many students beginning to work while they are still students.





# Q & A

- Typical schedule: M-F, 7am-11am or 1pm-5pm
- Many of our students work while attending school
- Students typically need to purchase less than \$1,000 worth of tools for program.
- There are often grants and scholarships available to help students with the cost of tuition and tools.

For college admissions & advising information, please stick around for help from 4:30-5pm.

## **Contact Information**

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# Typical Day in an Ironworker Welder's Life

