

GENERAL TECHNOLOGY, GUNSMITHING, A.A.S. - GSMG

This A.A.S. degree in General Technology with a concentration in Gunsmithing provides additional training for students desiring to either own their own business or gain employment with a major firearm manufacturer. Students desiring to start their own business can receive additional education and training by enrolling in the Entrepreneur program. Those students who would like to work for a major manufacturer can enroll in the Machine Tool or Welding program. In any of the degreed programs, students receive an additional 12 hours of focused material along with the 5 general education courses and courses within the Gunsmithing curriculum. In the Introduction to Gunsmithing section students receive training in basic hand tools, blueprint reading, precision instrument usage/reading, stock refinishing, metal treatment, cycle of operations of the 8 major action types, welding, lathe and mill theory practical application and the building of a bolt action firearm. In the Advanced Gunsmithing section students carve, inlet, shape and finish a wooden and synthetic stock for the firearm they built in the first section along with checkering. Additionally, students will work in a gunsmith shop environment where they will diagnose, repair and complete cost analysis for all the firearms they are assigned. Additional courses include: Ballistics, Sights, Triggers, Military Conversions, Safety and Business.

Criminal Record Checks for Gunsmithing Students

Criminal Record Check: Students in specific Gunsmithing programs are required to have a criminal background check and be eligible to receive a concealed weapon permit. These are conducted by an outside agency at the student's expense. Pending criminal charges or convictions may make the student ineligible for enrollment, participation in courses or taking the examinations.

Requirements

Courses	Course Title	Credit Hours
General Education Courses		
ENG 101 or ENG 165	English Composition I Professional Communications	3
MAT 170 or MAT 171	Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry I Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry II	3
	Elective Social/Behavioral Sciences (https://catalog.ptc.edu/student-handbook/advising-registration/general-education-courses/)	3
	Lab Science/Mathematics (https://catalog.ptc.edu/student-handbook/advising-registration/general-education-courses/)	3
	Elective Humanities/Fine Arts (https://catalog.ptc.edu/student-handbook/advising-registration/general-education-courses/)	3
	Subtotal	15
Required Core Subject Area - Primary Specialty		
GSM 101	Gunsmithing I	4
GSM 102	Gunsmithing II	4

GSM 105	Gunsmithing Welding	2
GSM 106	Gunsmith Safety	1
GSM 107	Gunsmith Machine Tool Technology	4
GSM 120	Basic Stockmaking	3
GSM 122	General Repair	3
GSM 222	Handgun Technology	3
	Subtotal	24

Required Core Subject Area - Secondary Specialty		
	Select 12 credits of the following Options A, B, or C:	12

Option A - Machine Tool Technology:		
MTT 120	Machine Tool Print Reading	
MTT 121	Machine Tool Theory I	
MTT 122	Machine Tool Practice I	
MTT 123	Machine Tool Theory II	
MTT 124	Machine Tool Practice II	
MTT 126	Machine Tool Practice III	
MTT 130	Fundamentals of Geometric Dimensions and Tolerances	
MTT 141	Metals and Heat Treatment	
MTT 143	Precision Measurements	
MTT 161	Machine Tool Maintenance Theory	
MTT 222	Tool and Diemaking Practice I	
MTT 224	Tool and Diemaking Practice II	
MTT 250	Principles of CNC	
MTT 251	CNC Operations	
MTT 253	CNC Programming and Operations	

Option B - Welding:		
WLD 103	Print Reading I	
WLD 105	Print Reading II	
WLD 108	Gas Metal Arc Welding I	
WLD 113	Arc Welding II	
WLD 115	Arc Welding III	
WLD 117	Specialized Arc Welding	
WLD 132	Inert Gas Welding Ferrous	
WLD 136	Advanced Inert Gas Welding	
WLD 154	Pipefitting and Welding	
WLD 208	Advanced Pipe Welding	

Option C - Business/ Entrepreneurship:		
ACC 101	Accounting Principles I	
BUS 121	Business Law I	
CPT 101	Introduction to Computers	
MGT 120	Small Business Management	
MKT 101	Marketing	
MKT 135	Customer Service Techniques	
	Subtotal	12

Other Courses Required for Graduation¹		
	Approved Electives from Options A, B, or C ¹	12

Subtotal	12
Total Hours	63

¹ Students may use credits in this section to develop a third technical specialty or to enhance the primary and secondary specialties.

Application and Advising

If you are ready to start your education, there are a few simple steps involved in enrolling at Piedmont Technical College.

Get Started Today (<https://www.ptc.edu/admissions/new-students/>)

Advising Information

The following information provides a guide for advisors who are helping students enroll in this program.

Program Notes

Prospective students should apply to the college as early as possible. Gunsmithing is a currently a very popular program.

The Gunsmithing program offers two program options. Please speak with the Gunsmithing Program Director to determine which program best suits your goals:

Gunsmithing Certificates:

Introduction to Gunsmithing
Advanced Gunsmithing

Gunsmithing Degree in 'General Technologies with a major in Gunsmithing'

A clear SLED background check is required before taking the first GSM prefix course, GSM 101. Pending criminal charges or convictions may make the applicant ineligible for enrollment or participation in the gunsmithing program. This check must be done within two (2) months of a student's start date. The gunsmithing program will coordinate this check with incoming students. A current concealed weapon permit (CWP) from any state can be used in lieu of the background check. (Please contact Program Director Jerry Capone if you have a CWP from another state.)

Students are required to take the placement test to enter this program unless they hold a college degree. All students must have a high school diploma or GED.

Gunsmithing certificates are not approved for international students.

Students must attend the Gunsmithing Orientation. Students must read and sign the Gunsmithing Programs policy on Safety and Security during orientation.

Students must have all the tools, supplies, books and class notes prior to orientation. Students may use their own tools and equipment or purchase these items from the school. NOTE: Students who do not have all the required items will be withdrawn from the Gunsmithing program, and may re-register for classes in a future semester.

Safety glasses are required in the shop areas at all times for all students. Students with prescription lenses must have shatter-proof lenses with side shields.

Notes About Individual Classes

The English required for this program is ENG 165 or ENG 101. Students will follow this progression, with their starting point being determined by their placement test scores: ENG 032/012 and/or RDG 032/012 (or RWR 032/012) > ENG 100 and/or RDG 100 (or RWR 100) > ENG 165 or ENG 101.

The math required for this program is MAT 170. Students will follow this progression, with their starting point being determined by their placement test scores: MAT 032/012 > MAT 170.

Program Purpose Statement

Gunsmithing students may complete the Associate in Applied Science, General Technology to upgrade certificates into broader occupational degrees. The General Technology major allows students to select coursework for becoming a multi-skilled technician. The required core consists of a primary and secondary technical specialty.

Student Program Learning Outcomes

For more information, review the learning outcomes for the corresponding certificates.

Learn More (<https://catalog.ptc.edu/academic-programs/industrial-technology/gunsmithing-curricula/>)