The Auto Body Collision and Repair program prepares individuals for employment in the auto body repair industry in positions such as

- Automotive Refinish Technician,
- Auto Body Painter,
- Collision Technician, and
- Automotive Body Technician.

Students in Automotive Refinishing learn surface preparation, paint safety, refinishing fundamentals; application of acrylic enamel and base coat/clear coat refinishing systems as well as how to match paint type and color; color theory, evaluation, matching, multiple panel paint blending techniques.

The Collision Repair curriculum has two certificates:

- Structural Repair and
- Non-Structural Repair.

Structural repair students learn how to diagnose and repair various types of damage, identify structural components, separate spot welds, position and weld new body panels in place. Non-Structural Repair students learn how to repair heavy collision damage using current I-CAR repair standards and procedures.

Graduation Requirements

Certificate in Automotive Refinishing, Structural Repair, and Non-Structural Repair: WorkKeys® scores of level 4 in Reading for Information, Locating Information, and Applied Mathematics; cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. A minimum of 6 credits earned toward the certificate must be completed at NMSU or one of its community colleges. If the certificate requires fewer than 6 credits, all credits must be completed at NMSU or one of its community colleges. Individual academic program may have additional requirements.

AAS in Auto Body Collision and Repair: ENGL 1110G Composition I with a C or higher; placement into college-level math and reading courses or completion of developmental courses with a C or higher; cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. A minimum of 15 of the 60 credits for the associate's degree must be completed at NMSU or one of its community colleges. Individual academic programs may have additional requirements.

Auto Body Collision Repair - Associate of Applied Science

Automotive Refinishing - Certificate

Non-Structural Collision Repair - Certificate

Structural Collision Repair - Certificate

Gainful Employment Disclosure: Important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attend this program can be found on the following Gainful Employment Disclosure

AUTO 102. Electrical Measuring Instruments
2 Credits (1+2P)
Selection, operation, and care of electrical measuring instruments.

AUTO 111. Automotive Mechanics Basics
4 Credits (4)
Basic maintenance procedures of the major components of the automobile using service repair manuals, hand and power tools, precision measurement equipment, fasteners and chemicals. Restricted to:

AUTO 112. Basic Gasoline Engines
5 Credits (2+6P)
Principles of gasoline engine operation. Identification, design, function of engine components; engine disassembly and reassembly; trouble shooting, and rebuilding heads.

AUTO 113. Automotive Electricity and Electronics PT I
4 Credits (2+4P)
Topics include mastery of DC electricity, use of digital multimeters, troubleshooting electrical problems in starting, charging and accessory systems. Restricted to Community Colleges only.

AUTO 114. Automotive Electricity and Electronics PT II
4 Credits (2+4P)
Advanced AC and DC automotive electronic circuits. Troubleshooting electronically controlled components including supplemental restraint systems and convenience accessories. May be repeated up to 4 credits.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): AUTO 113. Restricted to Community Colleges campuses only.

AUTO 115. Automotive Engine Repair
5 Credits (2+6P)
Principles of gasoline engine operation. Identification of engine parts, operation, and function. Disassembly and reassembly. Engine problem diagnoses (cooling system, lubrication system, engine noises). Restricted to Community Colleges only.

AUTO 117. Electronic Analysis and Tune-Up of Gasoline Engines
5 Credits (2+6P)
Theory and operation of ignition and emission control systems and fuel system. Use of troubleshooting equipment and diagnostic equipment.

Prerequisite: AUTO 120 or consent of instructor.

AUTO 119. Manual Transmission/Clutch
5 Credits (2+6P)
Manual transmission, transfer cases, and clutch operating principles. Students will diagnose problems, remove and replace, disassemble, repair, and assemble units.

AUTO 120. Electrical Systems
4 Credits (2+4P)
Troubleshooting and repair of starters, alternators, and associated circuits. Reading electrical diagrams, diagnosis and repair of electrical accessories.

Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

AUTO 122. Automotive Brakes
4 Credits (2+4P)
Focus is on theory, diagnosis, and service of drum, disc, and anti-lock braking systems, brake component machining, hydraulic component reconditioning, friction and hardware replacement. Restricted to Community Colleges only.

AUTO 124. Automotive Heating and Air Conditioning
4 Credits (2+4P)
R12 and R134A air conditioning systems maintenance diagnosis and repair. R12 to R134A conversion procedures. Troubleshooting automatic temperature controls and leak detection. Restricted to Community Colleges only.
AUTO 125. Brakes
5 Credits (2+6P)
Theory of operation, diagnosis, repair, and maintenance of disc and drum brakes; safety and use of special tools.

AUTO 126. Suspension, Steering, and Alignment
5 Credits (2+6P)
Types of steering systems, suspension maintenance and repair, four-wheel alignment procedures.

AUTO 127. Basic Automatic Transmission
4 Credits (2+4P)
Theory and operation of the automatic transmission; maintenance, troubleshooting, diagnosis, and repair of components.

AUTO 129. Automotive Steering and Suspension
4 Credits (2+4P)
Diagnosis/service of suspension components including shocks, springs, ball joints, manual and power steering systems and four wheel alignment are some areas covered. Restricted to Community Colleges only.

AUTO 130. Introduction to Transportation Industry
3 Credits (3)
State and national traffic statutes that relate to the trucking industry. A Commercial Driver’s License Learner’s Permit will be obtained through successful completion of the course.

Prerequisites: Must be 18 years of age, have a current driver’s license and consent of instructor.

AUTO 131. Class A CDL
3 Credits (1+4P)
Instruction in how to perform proper pre-trip inspection; hands-on training with a tractor-trailer unit on the backing range and street driving to develop skills necessary to pass Class A DCL exam. Restricted to Community Colleges campuses only.

Prerequisite(s): Class A CDL restricted license (permit) and either restriction of D.O.T.

AUTO 132. Automotive Air-Conditioning and Heating Systems
4 Credits (2+4P)
Theory and operation, reading schematic diagrams, troubleshooting, repair, and replacement operations performed.

AUTO 137. Fuel Systems and Emission Controls
4 Credits (2+4P)
Covers theory and operation of fuel system and emission control. Troubleshooting, vacuum diagrams, overhaul, repair and adjustment of carburetion and fuel injection.

Prerequisites: AUTO 117 or consent of instructor.

AUTO 139. Automotive Computer Controls
4 Credits (2+4P)
Same as OPEM 139.

AUTO 162. Advanced Non-Structural Repair I
4 Credits (2+4P)
This course will involve the students in all phases of minor non-structural collision damage repairs. It will encompass sheet metal repair, advanced panel replacement and alignment.

Prerequisite(s): AUTO 161.

AUTO 163. Advanced Non-Structural Repair II
4 Credits (2+4P)
This course is a continuation of AUTO 162 with emphasis in all phases of minor non-structural damage repair. The student will be instructed in sheet metal repair and panel alignment as well as the R&I of automotive glass and related components.

Prerequisite(s): AUTO 162.

AUTO 164. Automotive Industry Collision Repair I
4 Credits (2+4P)
This advanced course is a continuation of AUTO 161, 162, and 163. This course will incorporate all areas of major non-structural collision damage repair. Through practical application the student will learn how to effectively repair all heavy collision damage using current I-CAR repair standards and procedures.

Prerequisite(s): AUTO 163.

AUTO 165. Automotive Industry Collision Repair II
4 Credits (2+4P)
This advanced course is a continuation of AUTO 164 with emphasis on time efficiency. This course will involve the student in all areas of major collision damage repair. The student will be exposed to all applicable I-CAR industry procedures and standards involved in sheet metal and composite panel repair.

Prerequisite(s): AUTO 164.

AUTO 172. Introduction to Automotive Refinishing
4 Credits (2+4P)
This course is designed to incorporate all aspects of surface preparation, paint safety, refinishing materials, and refinishing fundamentals. Students will receive instructions for the application of acrylic enamel and base coat/clear coat refinishing systems.

AUTO 174. Intermediate Automotive Refinishing
4 Credits (2+4P)
This course encompasses all areas of surface preparation, damage repair and refinishing procedures that are necessary for achieving a proper spot repair. Students will also be exposed to safe work habits in the refinishing area and correct automotive detailing procedures.

Prerequisite(s): AUTO 172.

AUTO 176. Automotive Color Adjustment & Blending
4 Credits (2+4P)
This course will help develop the skills needed to match any type of paint. It will expose the student to color theory, color evaluation, color matching, and other color adjustment factors. The student will be instructed in multiple panel paint blending techniques as well.

Prerequisite(s): AUTO 174.

AUTO 178. Automotive Overall Refinishing
4 Credits (2+4P)
This course encompasses all areas of automotive refinishing. This advanced course is a continuation of AUTO 176 with emphasis in achieving industry refinishing times and standards consistent with that of I-CAR. The student will be exposed to surface preparation and refinishing techniques involved with overall coat/clear coat refinishing system.

Prerequisite(s): AUTO 176.

AUTO 181. Frame and Structural Repair
4 Credits (2+4P)
This course will involve the student in all areas of frame and structural damage repairs. Through theory and practical application, the student will learn how to diagnose and repair various types of damage include: mash, twist, sag, and side sway. This course will expose the students to safe work habits while using measuring and straightening equipment.

Prerequisite(s): AUTO 165.
AUTO 182. Structural Panel Replacement
4 Credits (2+4P)
This course is a continuation of AUTO 181 with infancies in structural panel replacement. The student will be exposed to frame and unibody measuring equipment and their proper use in sectioning procedures. Through theory and practical application the student will learn how to ID structural components, properly separate spot welds, position and weld new body panels in place.
Prerequisite(s): AUTO 181.

AUTO 201. Engine Performance I
4 Credits (2+4P)
Theory, function, service and analysis of engine related subsystems including ignition, fuel, starting, and charging systems. Emphasis is placed on diagnosis and operation of electronic engine control management systems. Restricted to Community Colleges only.

AUTO 203. Engine Performance II
4 Credits (2+4P)
Study of engine management systems and emission control systems, their function and relationship to vehicle performance and air pollution. Emphasis is placed on the analysis and repair of non-compliant vehicles. Restricted to Community Colleges only.

AUTO 204. Engine Performance III
4 Credits (2+4P)
Study of advanced level diagnostic test procedures and the equipment used to analyze OBD-II emission and drivability concerns. Use of Digital Storage Oscilloscopes, current ramping, Scan Tool analysis of 4 and 5 gas analyzers is mastered. Hybrid vehicles and the latest engine control systems are introduced. Restricted to Community Colleges only.

AUTO 205. Manual Drive Train and Axles
4 Credits (2+4P)
Operation, diagnosis, maintenance, repair or replacement of manual transmissions, clutch assemblies, differentials, drivelines, axles, and manual transaxles. Restricted to Community Colleges only.

AUTO 206. Automatic Transmissions
5 Credits (2+6P)
Operation, diagnosis, maintenance, and repair of automatic transmissions including rear wheel drive, front wheel drive, and electronically controlled transmissions and transaxles. Restricted to Community Colleges only.

AUTO 208. Introduction to Alternative Fueled Vehicles
3 Credits (3)
Course will familiarize student with conditions that are resulting in the alternative fueled vehicle movement as well as the design and safety precautions unique to each alternative fuel. Propulsion systems covered include electric vehicles, bio-fueled vehicles, hybrid-electric vehicles and hydrogen powered vehicles, along with other emerging technologies as appropriate. Restricted to: Community Colleges only.
Prerequisite(s): AUTO 113 and AUTO 114.

AUTO 221. Cooperative Experience I
1-6 Credits
Supervised cooperative work program. Student is employed in an approved occupation and supervised and rated by the employer and instructor. Student will meet in a weekly class. Graded S/U.
Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

AUTO 255. Special Problems in Automotive Technology
1-5 Credits
Individual studies in areas directly related to automotive technologies. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.
Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

AUTO 290. ASE Certification Preparation
1 Credit (1)
This is the capstone course for the Automotive Technology Program and is a requirement for graduation. Consent of Instructor required. Restricted to: AUTO majors. Restricted to Community Colleges campuses

AUTO 295. Special Topics
1-6 Credits
Topics to be announced in the Schedule of Classes.