AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Certificate of Completion - Important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attend this program can be found on the following https://dacc.nmsu.edu/gainfulemployment/.

The automobile has always created a steady demand for automotive technicians. Today, automotive service is one of the fastest-growing industries in the nation, and career opportunities are expanding rapidly.

The Automotive Technology program at Doña Ana Community College is certified by NATEF/ASE (National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation/Automotive Service Excellence) and is designed to prepare the student for an entry-level position as a line technician, shop foreman, service writer, service manager, or business owner. Completing courses, certificates, and/or degrees from an NATEF certified school will enhance students’ ability to gain employment as well as better prepare them to become NATEF certified.

Students are trained using state-of-the-art equipment. In the laboratories, they practice the same service and repair techniques required of any professional service technician working in the real world. Each class includes a number of carefully selected competencies that must be mastered in order to successfully complete the program. Students are trained in:

- Engine service
- Suspension and steering
- Manual drive train and axles
- Electrical systems
- Brakes
- Fuel and emissions
- Heating and air conditioning
- Engine performance
- Automatic transmission/transaxle

Classes are offered in the daytime and also at night to accommodate work schedules.

Full-time Automotive Technology students are required to purchase a personal set of automotive technician’s tools at an approximate cost of $1,100, an iPad at the approximate cost of $400, and to provide their own safety glasses. In addition, they are strongly encouraged to purchase medical/accident insurance. The tool set includes the basic tools that most employers require for an entry-level position. Part-time students are required to purchase only those tools required by the specific course(s) in which they are enrolled.

All Automotive Technology students are encouraged to join SkillsUSA, membership in which provides students an opportunity to develop their leadership skills and to become proficient in public speaking and parliamentary procedure. SkillsUSA also offers students an opportunity to demonstrate their occupational skills through competitions that are held annually on both the state and national level.

Whether taking classes or working on a job site, students enrolled in this program will be required to perform the same job duties and be able to meet the same physical requirements that they will as a graduate in the field. Graduates may be required to lift and carry 50 pounds safely, work safely using hand and power tools and electrical equipment, and stand, squat, stoop, or kneel for long periods of time.

Additional Graduation Requirements

To receive either an associate degree or a certificate of completion, students are required to obtain a Career Readiness Certificate in the areas of Applied Math, Reading for Information, and Locating Information at the appropriate level for their respective degree option. To facilitate success in obtaining their Career Readiness Certificate students will be required to take 1 credit of OETS 102 Career Readiness Certification Preparation. A program advisor can provide additional information.

Automotive Technology - Associate of Applied Science (http://catalogs.nmsu.edu/dona-ana/academic-career-programs/automotive-technology/automotive-technology-associate-applied-science)

Automotive Technology - Certificate of Completion (http://catalogs.nmsu.edu/dona-ana/academic-career-programs/automotive-technology/automotive-technology-certificate-completion)

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

AUTO 103. Auto Mechanics Fundamentals
4 Credits (2+4P)
Theory and operation of all areas of auto mechanics. Basic repair and maintenance operations.

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 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 118. Technical Math for Mechanics
3 Credits (2+3P)
Mathematical applications for the automotive trade.

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 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 130. Introduction to Transportation Industry
3 Credits
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 OEPM 139.

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

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