

2025 - 2026

**COURSE
CATALOG**



WELCOME TO WMCI

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2 MEET THE TEAM

3 CRAFT TRAINING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

5 CRAFT TRAINING

- 5 Carpentry
- 6 Core
- 7 Concrete
- 8 Drywall
- 9 Exterior Envelope
- 11 Plumbing
- 13 Sprinkler Fitting

15 CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 15 Field Leadership
- 16 Ferris State Project Management
- 16 Understanding Construction Documents
- 17 Presentation Skills
- 17 Spanish for Construction
- 18 Field Operations
- 18 Better Communications

Corporate Partners



For information about how to become a corporate partner, please contact Merisa at msmith@wmcinstitute.com

MEET THE TEAM

Administrative Staff

Jen Schottke
President
Jschottke@wmcinstitute.com

Tyler Huizenga
Vice President of Education
Thuizenga@wmcinstitute.com

Kyle Jelens
High School Program Manager
Kjelens@wmcinstitute.com

Jordyn Kapala
Student Services + Continuing Education Specialist
Jkapala@wmcinstitute.com

Daniela Villatoro
Administrative Assistant
Dvillatoro@wmcinstitute.com

Board of Directors

John DeBlaay
Dan Vos Construction Company

Matt Fennema
Kent Companies

Tim Koster - Board Treasurer
BHS Insurance

Josh Lester - Board Chair
CS Erickson

Steve Longstreet
Buist Electric

Brian Potter
Architectural Metals Inc.

Tony Roussey - Past Chair
EV Construction

Bev Thiel
Habitat for Humanity Kent County

Mark Thomas
Retired High School Principal

“This year I’ve appreciated having such a diverse group of instructors. Learning a bunch of different outlooks and approaches to how they’re successful in the trades. They have been great role models. It’s made me feel a lot more confident to get out there and not be shy. It built character in addition to building things.”

- Ben | Senior at Jenison High School



WELCOME TO WMCI

CRAFT TRAINING

Craft training at the West Michigan Construction Institute (WMCI) offers students an opportunity to advance their skills as craft professionals. Many of the classroom components are supplemented with lab-based, hands-on activities to advance both the student's knowledge of the trade and their competency in the skills of the trade. WMCI utilizes the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curriculum which is modular based to ensure the student has a clear understanding of the material before they progress to the next component of their training. WMCI provides student's successful completion records to NCCER where they are recorded in NCCER's national registry. Students may or may not be working in their desired trade to enroll in the WMCI. All students must be at least 16 years of age.

Classroom Training for Registered Apprenticeship Programs

WMCI's classroom training may be recognized as a component of a company's formal registered apprenticeship program. For companies that have registered standards with the US Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship [DOL/OA], the training provided by WMCI may fulfill the DOL/OA requirement of classroom training hours. The classroom component, along with employer-supervised on-the-job training hours, may lead to recognition of the apprentice achieving a journey level in their trade. Students must be 18 years of age, capable of performing required tasks and working for an employer who has registered standards with DOL/OA. Students in craft or apprenticeship training will take 2 semesters per year (144 hours) in a 2, 3, or 4-year trade program to successfully complete the program. If a student withdraws from a program without completing a level and would like to re-enroll, all modules previously passed will be considered dependent on the completion date and the number of modules passed per semester.

Job Placement

WMCI provides career and job placement assistance, however, WMCI does not guarantee employment. Resumes are accepted and passed along to employer partners of WMCI. If a student needs assistance in resume building, the Student Services Specialist will support the student in developing their resume. In order for the student to receive job placement support, the job seeker must contact the Student Services Specialist and set up an appointment.

Why WMCI

COMPLIANCE AND ACCREDITATION

WMCI is licensed as a Michigan Proprietary School and meets state quality standards. Additionally, the craft training provided is accredited by NCCER, ensuring that the education meets recognized industry standards.

EXPERIENCED INSTRUCTORS

WMCI instructors are journey-level professionals with extensive experience in their respective trades. Their practical knowledge and experience enhance the learning process for students.

HANDS-ON LEARNING

Instructors work alongside students in the field, providing valuable support and guidance as students apply their skills in real-world settings.

TIMELY COMPLETION

WMCI works with students and their employers to ensure timely completion of craft training, typically within two to four years. This commitment to efficiency helps students achieve their career goals more quickly.

PORTABILITY OF EDUCATION

The education provided by WMCI is transferable and portable, recognized throughout the nation. This flexibility allows students to pursue opportunities outside of the local area with confidence in the value of their education.

Enrollment

Students can enroll via the digital course catalog on the website www.wmcinstitute.com or via the Student Services Department (616)208-9624. Students do not need a high school diploma or GED and must be 18 years or older.

Enrollment closes the day before the class begins.

Tuition

- WMCI students are either employer-paid students or self-pay students.
- Self-pay students will need to submit a non refundable \$25 deposit at the time of registration to hold their spot. This deposit will be applied towards the total tuition and fees due.
- Self-pay students are required to submit full payment by August 1st for the fall semester to remain enrolled in the class.
- Full Payment for the spring semester is due by December 1st.
- Student may choose to pay in full for the semester or set up a payment plan by contacting the Student Services Specialist at jkapala@wmcinstitute.com.

Scholarships

Please contact the Student Services Specialist for information about applying to scholarships.

Norm Brady Scholarship:

Available to one post-secondary student pursuing education in a craft training program at WMCI. This scholarship awards full tuition & fees for one academic year.

Tracie Green Scholarship:

Available to one post-secondary female student entering the skilled trades. This scholarship awards \$1,000 towards tuition and fees.

WMCI General Scholarship:

Available to post-secondary students entering the skilled trades. This scholarship awards students support towards tuition and fees. The amount given is based on available funds and student needs.

Facilities, & Equipment

9 Classrooms & 4 Labs

Total Training Square Footage : 17,900 SQFT

Carpentry: Basic tools and materials to complete each module

Concrete: Basic tools and materials to complete each module

Core: Basic hand and power tools, blueprints

Drywall: Basic tools and materials to complete each module

Exterior Envelope: Basic tools and materials to complete each module

Plumbing: Basic tools and materials to complete each module

Sprinkler Fitting: Basic tools and materials to complete each module

CRAFT TRAINING

CARPENTRY

General Carpentry

Section 1: Tuesdays, August 26 - June 2, 2026; Biweekly 7:00am-4:00pm
-OR-

Section 2: Tuesdays, August 19 - June 2, 2026; Weekly 4:30pm-8:30pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$175 materials/lab fee; \$265 course textbooks

Prerequisites: None

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

NCCER's curriculum in carpentry teaches trainees to construct, erect, install, and repair structures and fixtures made from wood and other materials. This curriculum covers content such as building materials, floor systems, and wall systems to successfully work in a variety of construction activities.

Modules

Basic Safety
Introduction to Construction Math
Introduction to Hand Tools
Introduction to Power Tools
Introduction to Construction Drawings
Basic Communication Skills
Basic Employability Skills
Introduction to Materials Handling
Orientation to Carpentry
Building Materials and Fasteners
Construction Plans & Documents
Principles of Site and Building Layout

Modules Continued

Floor Systems
Wall Systems
Roof Framing
Basic Stair Layout
Building Envelope Systems

Credentials Earned

NCCER Core Certification
NCCER General Carpentry Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

Advanced Carpentry

Dates: Tuesdays, August 19 - May 26, 2026; Biweekly 7:00am-4:00pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$300 materials/lab fee; \$175 course textbook

Prerequisites: General Carpentry or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

This advanced course is designed to provide students with additional knowledge and practical skills required to work in the commercial construction industry. Students will explore the building process, doors and door hardware, drywall installation and finishing, and cabinet installations.

Modules

The Building Process
Site Preparation
Wall Systems and Installation
Roofing Applications
Steel Framing Systems
Thermal and Moisture Protection
Drywall Installation
Interior Finish, Trim, and Cabinets
Doors and Door Hardware

Modules Continued

Suspended and Acoustical Ceilings
Finished Stairs
Exterior Finish and Trim
Mass Timber Construction
Introduction to Leadership

Credentials Earned

NCCER Advanced Carpentry Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

CORE: CONSTRUCTION FOUNDATIONS

WMCI is proud to offer Core in the Spring semester. This course allows students to start midway through the year and take Core in conjunction with a level I course. Students must take this course before or alongside any other level one WMCI craft course.

Core | Spring Semester

Dates: Thursdays, January 8 - June 4, 2026; Weekly 4:30pm-8:30pm

Tuition: \$2,000

Fees: \$50 materials/lab fee; \$125 course textbooks

Prerequisites: None

Course Length: 1 Semester

This foundation course equips students for success in the commercial industry by teaching construction skills such as using power tools, safety practices, job site teamwork, and more. This course provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to work successfully in the commercial construction industry.

Modules

- Basic Safety
- Introduction to Construction Math
- Introduction to Hand Tools
- Introduction to Power Tools
- Introduction to Construction Drawings
- Basic Communication Skills
- Basic Employability Skills
- Introduction to Materials Handling

Credentials Earned

- NCCER Core Certificate
- WMCI Certificate of Completion



CRAFT TRAINING

CONCRETE

Concrete I

Dates: Fall Dates | Tuesdays, August 26 - December 16, 2025; Biweekly 7:00am-4:00pm
Winter Dates | Wednesdays, January 7 - March 25, 2026; Weekly 7:00am-4:00pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$250 materials/lab fee; \$225 course textbooks

Prerequisites: NCCER Core or Employer Approval

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Beginning with the essentials of concrete safety, tools, and equipment, the course progresses into a variety of commercial concrete applications, including placement, reinforcing, formwork, and finishing. This course provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to work successfully in the commercial concrete industry.

Modules

Basic Safety
Introduction to Construction Math
Introduction to Hand Tools
Introduction to Power Tools
Introduction to Construction Drawings
Basic Communication Skills
Basic Employability Skills
Introduction to Materials Handling
Introduction to Concrete Construction
Concrete Safety
Fall Protection Orientation
Concrete Tools and Equipment

Modules Continued

Preparing for Placement
Reinforcing Concrete
Foundations and Slabs-On-Grade
Vertical Formwork
Horizontal Formwork
Site Concrete
Finishing Concrete
Curing and Protecting Concrete

Credentials Earned

NCCER Concrete I Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

Concrete II

Dates: Thursdays, January 8 - March 26, 2026; Weekly 7:00am-4:00pm

Tuition: \$2,000

Fees: \$200 materials/lab fee; \$125 course textbook

Prerequisites: NCCER Concrete I or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Semester

Building on the competencies learned in Level I, Concrete Level II equips students with knowledge of various mix designs, uses, and limitations for specific project needs and environmental conditions. Students develop a greater span of skills, and advance their knowledge to become more skilled in the concrete industry.

Modules

Properties of Concrete
Estimating Concrete Quantities
Architectural Finishes
Industrial Floors
Superflat Floors
Surface Treatments
Troubleshooting and Quality Control
Concrete Repair

Credentials Earned

NCCER Concrete II Certifications
WMCI Certificate of Completion

DRYWALL

Drywall I

Dates: Tuesdays, August 26 - June 2, 2026; Biweekly 7:00am-4:00pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$155 materials/lab fee; \$225 course textbooks

Prerequisites: None

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

The Drywall I curriculum covers the basic skills and competencies needed in the commercial construction industry. The course will explore fundamentals of drywall installation, including proper techniques for cutting, hanging, and finishing drywall panels. Master the skills needed to achieve smooth surfaces and seamless joints in this comprehensive course.

Modules

Basic Safety
Introduction to Construction Math
Introduction to Hand Tools
Introduction to Power Tools
Introduction to Construction Drawings
Basic Communication Skills
Basic Employability Skills
Introduction to Materials Handling
Introduction to Drywall
Construction Materials and Methods

Modules Continued

Thermal and Moisture Protection
Drywall Installation
Drywall Finishing

Credentials Earned

NCCER Core Certification
NCCER Drywall I Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

Drywall II

Dates: Thursdays, August 21 - June 4, 2026; Biweekly 7:00am-4:00pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$400 materials/lab fee; \$125 course textbooks

Prerequisites: Drywall I or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

The Drywall II curriculum covers the advanced skills and competencies needed in the commercial construction industry. The course will explore a deeper understanding of commercial drawings and steel framing. Students will also begin to explore advanced interior specialties.

Modules

Commercial Drawings
Steel Framing
Suspended and Acoustical Ceilings
Interior Specialties
Exterior Cladding
Interior Finishes

Credentials Earned

NCCER Drywall II Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

CRAFT TRAINING

EXTERIOR ENVELOPE

Exterior Envelope I

Dates: Wednesdays, August 27 - June 10, 2026; Biweekly 7:00am-4:00pm

Tuition: \$6,250 (\$3,125 billed each semester)

Fees: \$300 materials/lab fee; \$125 course textbook

Prerequisites: None

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

This beginning exterior envelope course covers the concepts trainees need to safely install, test, maintain, and repair different types of envelope systems. Students will also cover math, drawings, code, and other critical skills that ensure they are set up for job success.

Modules

Basic Safety
Introduction to Construction Math
Introduction to Hand Tools
Introduction to Power Tools
Introduction to Construction Drawings
Basic Communication Skills
Basic Employability Skills
Introduction to Materials Handling
Scaffolding
Safety for Exterior Envelope
Building Science
Introduction to Glazing
Introduction to Panels & Flushing

Modules Continued

Lift Training
Glazing Systems
Glass Fabrication
Water Tightness

Credentials Earned

NCCER Core Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion
MEWP/ Aerial Lift Certification
Rough Terrain Forklift Certification

Exterior Envelope II

Dates: Wednesdays, August 20 - June 10, 2026; Biweekly 7:00am-4:00pm

Tuition: \$6,250 (\$3,125 billed each semester)

Fees: \$300 materials/lab fee

Prerequisites: Exterior Envelope I or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

This course will continue to advance the students' education with a deeper discussion on exterior envelope-related math. This course also covers how to read construction documents as it relates to their field. Students will explore specialized trainings to assist them on the jobsite.

Modules

Water Tightness
Exterior Envelope Math
Water Proofing
Commercial Drawings
Forklift Training
Span Tables
Fastening Schedules
Rigging
Project Management
Sheathing

Credentials Earned

WMCI Certificate of Completion
MEWP/ Aerial Lift Certification
Rough Terrain Forklift Certification

Exterior Envelope III

Dates: Wednesdays, August 27 - June 10, 2026; Biweekly 7:00am-4:00pm

Tuition: \$9,400 (\$4,700 billed each semester)

Fees: \$300 materials/lab fee

Prerequisites: Exterior Envelope III or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

This final course will continue to advance the students' education with a deeper discussion in leadership and jobsite management. Students will get the opportunity to take advanced safety courses and complete building projects with materials and advanced construction practices.

Modules

Introduction to Field Leadership

OSHA 30

Project Supervision

Credentials Earned

WMCi Certificate of Completion

Introduction to Field Leadership Certification

OSHA 30



CRAFT TRAINING

PLUMBING

Plumbing I

Dates: Mondays, August 18 - June 1, 2026; Weekly 4:30pm-8:30pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$175 materials/lab fee; \$265 course textbooks

Prerequisites: None

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

This beginning plumbing course covers the concepts technicians need to safely install, test, maintain, and repair different types of pipe systems. Students will also cover math, drawings, code, and other critical skills that ensure they are set up for job success.

Modules

Basic Safety
Introduction to Construction Math
Introduction to Hand Tools
Introduction to Power Tools
Introduction to Construction Drawings
Basic Communication Skills
Basic Employability Skills
Introduction to Materials Handling
Introduction to the Plumbing Profession
Plumbing Safety
Tools of the Plumbing Trade
Introduction to Plumbing Math
Introduction to Plumbing Drawings
Plastic Pipe and Fittings

Modules Continued

Copper Tube and Fittings
Cast-Iron Pipe and Fittings
Steel Pipe and Fittings
Introduction to Plumbing Fixtures
Introduction to Drain, Waste, and Vent Systems
Introduction to Water Distribution Systems

Credentials Earned

NCCER Core Certification
NCCER Plumbing I Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion



Plumbing II

Dates: Wednesdays, August 20 - June 3, 2026; Weekly 4:30pm-8:30pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$300 materials/lab fee; \$175 course textbook

Prerequisites: Plumbing I or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

This course will continue to advance the students' education with a deeper discussion on plumbing-related math. This course also covers how to read construction documents as it relates to their field. Students will explore installation processes for drain, waste, and vent systems.

Modules

Plumbing Math Two
Reading Commercial Drawings
Structural Penetrations, Insulations, and Fire-Stopping
Installing and Testing DWV Piping
Installing Roof, Floor, and Area Drains
Installing and Testing Water Supply Piping
Types of Valves
Installing Fixtures and Valves
Installing Water Heaters
Basic Electricity
Fuel Gas and Fuel Oil System

Credentials Earned

NCCER Plumbing II Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

Plumbing III

Dates: Thursdays, August 21 - June 4, 2026; Weekly 4:30pm-8:30pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$300 materials/lab fee; \$275 course textbooks

Prerequisites: Plumbing II or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

This course will provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the various components and techniques required for plumbing systems. Students will learn about sizing and protecting water supply systems, including backflow prevention devices, as well as techniques for disinfecting and filtering potable water supply systems.

Modules

Applied Math
Sizing and Protecting the Water Supply System
Potable Water Supply Treatment
Types of Venting
Sizing DWV and Storm Systems
Sewage Pumps and Sump Pumps
Corrosive-Resistant Waste Piping
Compressed Air
Service Plumbing

Credentials Earned

NCCER Plumbing III Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

CRAFT TRAINING

SPRINKLER FITTING

Sprinkler Fitting I

Dates: Mondays, August 18 - June 1, 2026; Weekly 4:30pm-8:30pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$150 materials/lab fee; \$225 course textbooks

Prerequisites: None

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

Developed in partnership with the industry experts at the American Fire Sprinkler Association (AFSA), this course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of sprinkler systems and their components. The modules cover topics including Steel Pipes, CPVC Pipes, and Copper Tubing.

Modules

Basic Safety
Introduction to Construction Math
Introduction to Hand Tools
Introduction to Power Tools
Introduction to Construction Drawings
Basic Communication Skills
Basic Employability Skills
Introduction to Materials Handling
Occupational Overview: The Sprinkler Industry
Introduction to Components and Systems
Steel Pipe and Fittings

Modules Continued

CPVC Pipe and Fittings
Copper Tubing and Fittings
Underground Pipe

Credentials Earned

NCCER Core Certification
NCCER Sprinkler Fitting I Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

Sprinkler Fitting II

Dates: Tuesdays, August 19 - June 2, 2026; Weekly 4:30pm-8:30pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$200 materials/lab fee; \$125 course textbook

Prerequisites: Sprinkler Fitting I or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

Building on the competencies learned in Level I, this course is designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge required for the installation, operation, and maintenance of various sprinkler systems. The modules cover hangers, supports, and restraints, valves, math principles, shop drawings, standard spray sprinklers, wet and dry pipe sprinkler systems, and basic system troubleshooting procedures.

Modules

Hangers, Supports, and Restraints
General Purpose Valves
Math for Sprinkler Fitters
Shop Drawings
Standard Spray Sprinklers
Wet Pipe Sprinkler System
Dry Pipe Sprinkler Systems

Credentials Earned

NCCER Sprinkler Fitting II Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

Sprinkler Fitting III

Dates: Tuesdays, August 19 - June 2, 2026; Weekly 4:30pm-8:30pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$200 materials/lab fee; \$125 course textbook

Prerequisites: Sprinkler Fitting II or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

This course covers various aspects of sprinkler systems, including water supplies, fire pump systems, standpipes, deluge and pre-action sprinkler systems, and application-specific and special sprinklers. Topics include identifying system components, NFPA requirements, acceptance testing, and installation procedures.

Modules

Water Supplies
Fire Pump Systems
Standpipes
Deluge and Preaction Sprinkler Systems
Application-Specific and Special Sprinklers

Credentials Earned

NCCER Sprinkler Fitting III Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

Sprinkler Fitting IV

Dates: Mondays, August 18 - June 1, 2026; Weekly 4:30pm-8:30pm

Tuition: \$4,000 (\$2,000 billed each semester)

Fees: \$200 materials/lab fee; \$125 course textbook

Prerequisites: Sprinkler Fitting III or Employer Approval

Course Length: 1 Year (2 Semesters)

This course covers various aspects of sprinkler systems, including water supplies, fire pump systems, standpipes, deluge and pre-action sprinkler systems, and application-specific and special sprinklers. Topics include identifying system components, NFPA requirements, acceptance testing, and installation procedures.

Modules

System Layout
Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance
Special Extinguishing Systems
Fundamentals of Crew Leadership
Procedures and Documentation

Credentials Earned

NCCER Sprinkler Fitting IV Certification
WMCI Certificate of Completion

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Introductory Field Leadership

Dates: Tuesdays, August 26 - November 4, 2025; Biweekly 7:30am - 3:30pm

Registration Fees: \$3,800

Instructor: Randy Nemchin

Course Length: 6 class sessions

Introductory Field Leadership is a six-session professional development course for rising field leaders and superintendents. During this course, attendees will develop their leadership skills to aid in their growth from technical field experts to field managers and leaders. Through a combination of classroom and hands-on learning, this program will help field leaders improve their effectiveness.

Session Topics

1. Understanding Leadership
2. Communication with Purpose
3. Effective Team Building
4. Productivity
5. Transformation in Contracting
6. Client Management

Who Should Attend

This program is intended for rising or current field leaders (crew leaders or superintendents) who would benefit from professional development or are seeking to develop their leadership skills. One of the greatest assets of this program is the shared learning among attendees - field leaders across trades and companies.

Advanced Field Leadership

Dates: Wednesdays, August 27 - November 5, 2025; Biweekly 7:30am - 3:30pm

Registration Fees: \$3,900

Instructor: Randy Nemchin

Course Length: 6 class sessions

Advanced Field Leadership builds on the leadership competencies and skills developed in Introductory Field Leadership. The focus in Advanced Field Leadership is to set the tone that strong leadership requires self-awareness and business skills. Through a variety of self-assessments, classroom and hands-on learning activities, and a cap-stone project, attendees will complete the course having developed and practiced advanced leadership skills.

Session Topics

1. Leadership from Within
2. Managing Behaviors
3. Impacting Project Teams
4. Mentoring through Coaching
5. Situational Leadership
6. Leadership Growth

Who Should Attend

This program is intended for current field leaders (crew leaders or superintendents) who would benefit from continued professional development or are seeking to further develop their leadership skills.

Advanced Field Leadership attendees are best suited to attend if they have completed Introductory Field Leadership.

Project Management

Dates: Thursdays, September 4 - October 30, 2025; Weekly 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Registration Fees: \$3,750

Instructor: Ferris State University Professors

Course Length: 8 class sessions

Created in partnership with and instructed by Ferris State University faculty, this 30-hour course is designed to teach technical skills for commercial construction project managers. Attendees will cover crucial topics including project communication, contracts/scope of work, cash flow, project turnover, and administration.

Session Topics

1. Communication
2. Contracts & Scope of Work
3. Schedule Development
4. Project Buyout
5. Cash Flow
6. Project Administration
7. Project Turnover
8. Project Closeout

Who Should Attend

This course is designed for individuals with construction field or administrative experience who are looking to advance into project management roles. Ideal participants include superintendents, foremen, assistant project managers, project engineers, and office professionals who support construction projects but do not hold a construction management degree.

What Do Student Earn

Students receive an ICET Certification from Ferris States University upon successful attendance and completion of the program. Attendance at all sessions is required to receive the course certification.

Understanding Construction Documents

Section I: Wednesdays, October 1 - 29, 2025; Weekly 4:00pm-7:00pm

-OR-

Section I: Wednesdays, January 14 - February 11, 2026; Weekly 4:00pm-7:00pm

Registration Fees: \$585 + \$25 course textbook rental fee

Instructor: Stan Elenbaas

Course Length: 5 Sessions

This course provides an introductory understanding of how to read and interpret the various forms of construction documents for all areas of construction with an emphasis on architectural and structural trades. Attendees will practice analyzing drawings of the various trade disciplines and see how information is referenced throughout a set of construction documents. The course highlights the inter-relationship between the various disciplines, included in sets of construction documents (blueprints) from a simple duplex through a more complicated school addition. Finally, attendees will learn how inconsistencies are treated and resolved in construction documents.

Session Topics

1. Overview of Documents, Terminology, and Site Plans
2. Foundations and Building Framing
3. Building Enclosure and Partitioning
4. Interior Finishing and Chasing the Details
5. Plumbing, Mechanical, and Electrical Plans
6. Specifications and Bid Manuals

Who Should Attend

This introductory level program is structured for the tradesperson who is just entering the field or transitioning into a position that requires a good understanding of how construction documents are related to each other.

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Presentation Skills

NEW COURSE!

Dates: Wednesday, October 28-29, 2025; 7:30am-3:30pm & October 30, 2025 7:30am-12:00pm

Registration Fees: \$2,499

Instructor: Randy Nemchin

Course Length: 2.5 Days

This course provides participants with the tools and techniques needed to deliver confident, engaging, and impactful presentations. Through hands-on activities, structured lessons, and expert feedback, participants will develop their ability to structure content, connect with audiences, and present with confidence.

Session Topics

1. Organize and structure presentations for clarity and impact
2. Improve verbal and non-verbal communication skills
3. Manage nervousness and build a confident presence
4. Create and use effective visual aids
5. Engage audiences through interactive techniques
6. Handle Q&A sessions and challenging presentation scenarios.

Who Should Attend

This course is ideal for business development professionals, project managers, superintendents, and executives who are looking to improve their client presentation skills.

Spanish for Construction

Dates: Tuesdays & Thursdays, January 13 - March 19, 2026; Twice a Week 7:00am-9:00am

Registration Fee: \$1,250

Instructor: Christy Dam

Course Length: 9 Weeks

Developed in partnership with the Literacy Center of West Michigan, this course teaches construction Spanish through a customized curriculum that covers the most common words and phrases used on a construction jobsite.

Session Topics

1. Greetings & Introductions
2. Numbers
3. Telling Time & Schedules
4. Identifying Construction Jobs and Tools
5. Talking about Safety
6. Giving Instructions

Who Should Attend

This introductory-level course is intended for those who speak little to no Spanish, and is open to anyone looking to engage more effectively with their Spanish speaking team members.

Field Operations

Dates: Thursdays, January 22 - April 9, 2026; Weekly 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Registration Fees: \$3,750

Instructor: Ferris State University Professors

Course Length: 10 class sessions

Over a 30-hour duration, attendees will delve into crucial topics, including project communications, documentation, safety, logistics, coordination, and project closeout. These content areas are structured to provide the expertise and knowledge required to successfully navigate each phase of a construction project, ensuring a smooth transition to leadership roles in the field.

Session Topics

1. Project Communication
2. Project Documents
3. Admin & Financials
4. Safety & Site Logistics
5. Scheduling & Project Meetings
6. BIM Coordination & Quality Control
7. MEP

Who Should Attend

This course is designed to equip recently promoted superintendents, foremen, and crew leaders as they transition from hands-on trades to field leadership positions.

What Do Student Earn

Students receive an ICET Certification from Ferris States University upon successful attendance and completion of the program.

Better Communications

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026; 1:00pm-5:00pm

Registration Fees: \$199

Instructor: Christy Dam

Course Length: 4 Hours

In partnership with the Literacy Center of West Michigan, WMCI's Better Communication's seminar is a one-day, 4 hour session that covers the basics of understanding and overcoming language differences in the construction industry. Students will learn practical strategies to communicate information in ways that are more easily understood and strategies to check comprehension of feedback.

Who Should Attend

This course is ideal for professionals, team leaders, and anyone looking to improve their communication with speakers of different languages.

**MISSION: WE BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES BY
PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONSTRUCTION
PROFESSIONALS FOR LIFELONG CAREERS.**



MASTERY. PURPOSE. RESPECT.

WEST MICHIGAN
CONSTRUCTION INSTITUTE

801 CENTURY AVENUE SW, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503

616-208-9624

WMCINSTITUTE.COM