

Spring 2022 On the Level

Pacific Northwest Carpenters
Institute



Supporting Carpenters and Industry Partners

A Message From the Director

Spring has Arrived

*Michael Hawes,
Executive Director,
PNCI*



*Click the play button to see
a message from the director.*



The past two years have been challenging, but with the arrival of Spring and the easing of some of the COVID restrictions, moods are lifting, and smiles can be seen.

In spite of all of the challenges during COVID, we still managed to graduate 230 apprentices to Journey Level Status. We are excited to start planning an in-person industry outreach event for our new journey-level carpenters; scheduled for 11-2 p.m., May 14th in Portland and May 21st for Tangent. I want to recognize all the apprentices who've worked hard through the adversities of the past couple of years and persevered to achieve their goals.

Hopefully, it won't be long before our class numbers are back to full capacity. Our staff continues to work diligently to add and improve curriculum at PNCI. We are adopting Mount Hood Community College's Learning Management System, Black-Board. More information can be found in the article below.

In the second quarter of last year in partnerships with lines for life over 1000 apprentices completed the QPR (Suicide Prevention/Awareness) Training and this training is part of the onboarding for every new apprentice. I am extremely hopeful the QPR training is making a difference. The survey feedback we've received about this class is inspiring us to continue to offer it to our members the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Here is a quote shared by one of our industry foreman.

"I believe my job as a leader is to help others succeed. To do that I need the tools and resources like this training. I know we don't have all the answers, but we have the resources to find the answers."--Construction Foreman.

Spring fills me with hope of new beginnings. I'm fortunate to watch apprentices learn and grow into amazing carpenters, and grateful for the opportunity to be the director of PNCI.

PNCI Advances with BlackBoard

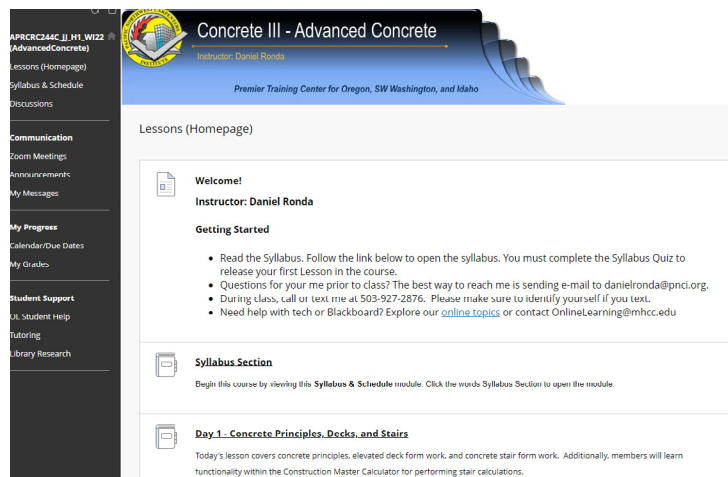
Over the past several months, with the ongoing support of Mount Hood Community College staff, PNCI has been developing a means of using BlackBoard LMS for instructional delivery. Creation of a base template for all PNCI courses was completed in mid-January. Core elements included in the base template include:

1. PNCI Banner and background
2. Course Overview
3. Course Syllabus
4. Four Day Course Schedule
5. Grading Rubrics for Classroom and Shop

In creating course specific templates, instructors will not need to re-create a course each time they teach it. The course template and all its content can be replicated for each class, keeping the template intact. The copying of a course only takes 20 minutes to complete.

A course template for Advanced Concrete was completed on February 25, following the completion of the base template. Core elements listed above were edited for this class and instructional components were developed. These elements included classroom assignments, handouts, presentations, class announcements, discussion boards, shop project drawings, and final exam.

Two mock classes were conducted on March 4th and 11th to evaluate content flow and overall functionality. Key PNCI instructors and staff participated in these trials, giving them the opportunity to experience BlackBoard from the student's perspective while also learning about features that would be available to instructors. The mock classes also identified adjustments that needed to be made. BlackBoard was used in the classroom at the Portland Training Center to conduct the first LMS-delivered Advanced Concrete class to apprentices, the week of March 14. Since this was an in-person class, classroom delivery remained the same with a few adjustments. While classroom delivery and instruction did not change, classroom assignments, project calculations and final exam were completed and automatically graded using blackboard. Stu-



The screenshot shows a BlackBoard course interface. The top navigation bar includes the course title 'Concrete III - Advanced Concrete' and the instructor's name 'Instructor: Daniel Ronda'. Below the navigation bar, there is a 'Lessons (Homepage)' section. The main content area is titled 'Welcome!' and includes a 'Getting Started' section with a list of instructions: 'Read the Syllabus. Follow the link below to open the syllabus. You must complete the Syllabus Quiz to release your first Lesson in the course.', 'Questions for your me prior to class? The best way to reach me is sending e-mail to danielronda@pnci.org.', 'During class, call or text me at 503-927-2876. Please make sure to identify yourself if you text.', and 'Need help with tech or Blackboard? Explore our [online topics](#) or contact OnlineLearning@mhcc.edu'. Below this, there is a 'Syllabus Section' with a sub-section for 'Day 1 - Concrete Principles, Decks, and Stairs'. The page also features a sidebar with navigation options like 'Lessons (Homepage)', 'My Progress', 'Student Support', and 'Communication'.

dents were provided iPads in the classroom for completion of these activities.

During hands-on shop projects instructors evaluated and graded based on three grading rubrics:

1. Shop preparedness (tools, PPE, CM calculator)
2. Shop Policy Adherence (safety, housekeeping, conduct)
3. Overall shop project (participation, competency, execution)

Additional BlackBoard features used:

1. Announcements – broadcast announcements to all students
2. Discussion boards – discussion forums created for potential work opportunities for out of work apprentices and feedback on BlackBoard features and usage.

Overall, the Advanced Concrete Pilot class was a great success. Valuable feedback was provided by our apprentices on what worked well and where we could make improvements.

Here's what our apprentices had to say on a discussion board in BlackBoard:

"It is nice to know your grade in the class and seeing class activities graded in real time." – Anonymous

"I really enjoyed using blackboard personally. Could use it from phone. And see any alerts. I also like the idea of taking all the test via electronic rather than paper." – Emmanuel

"Being a visual/hands on learner – some of the movable 3D graphics give me, personally, a better understanding on what the book goes over and how they function together as a whole" – Anonymous

"With Blackboard you have access to your grade at all times so you can really feel in control of your standing in the class." – Anonymous

Mass Timber Class Ready to Go!



From left to right: Anthony Persaud, Charlene Getchell and Dale Howe

Team PNCI made a trial run assembling the CLT/ Mass Timber mock-up designed and donated by WoodWorks. The training center is now ready for the Mass Timber Continuing Education Class.

Here is the course syllabus:

Prerequisites: Forklift & MEWPS Cert. plus 2yrs constr. exp.

Course Title: Introduction to Mass Timber with Emphasis on CLT

Location: PNCI Portland

Type of Program: Continuing Ed.

Length of Course: 24 hrs.

Format: Classroom/Shop

Class Times: Tuesday-Friday 5:00-9:00 pm, Saturday 7-3:30

Course Description:

The course is designed to introduce mass timber with an emphasis on Cross-Laminated Timber installation (CLT).

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain the benefits and limitations of Mass Timber in the construction industry.
- Given a series of photographs, identify different engineered mass timber components and their uses.
- Identify basic Mass Timber/CLT connections from drawings with accuracy.
- Demonstrate basic print reading skills related to Mass Timber/CLT
- Create an order of component assembly for CLT based upon a given set of prints
- Practice rigging safety; with an understanding of

center-of-gravity and basic hand signals

- Demonstrate basic carpentry skills needed to assemble a Mass Timber Mock-up, from the unloading of the materials to the completion of the project.

Student Activities:

Each student will be responsible for completing the following activities:

1. Correctly install Mass Timber/CLT and its fastening components
2. Demonstrate proper unloading, handling and assembly techniques
3. Actively participate in class discussions and shop project

Schedule:

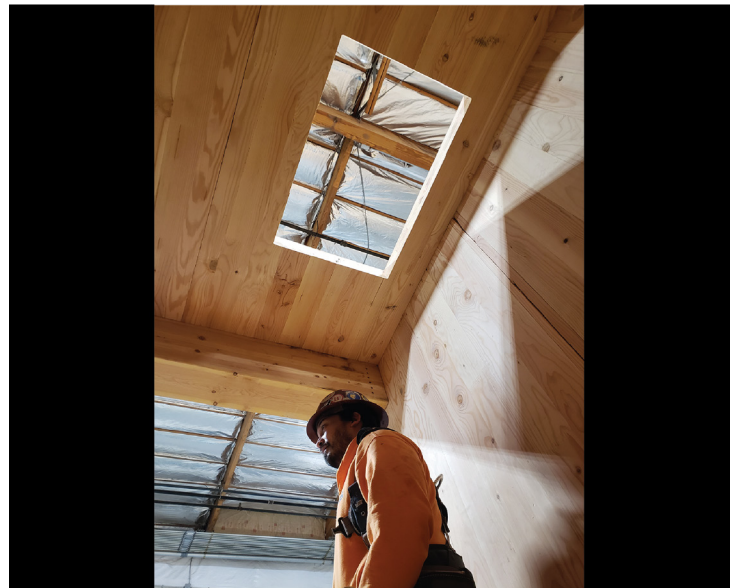
Tuesday 5pm-9pm Classroom

Wednesday 5pm-9pm Classroom

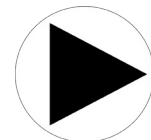
Thursday 5-9pm Classroom

Friday 5pm-9pm Assemble mock-up

Saturday 7am-3:30pm Shop assembly/disassembly of mock-up



Anthony Persaud surveys his finished work.



Click on the play button above for a time-lapse video of the mock-up assembly

Time to Take Care of Your Boots

Taken from Work Gearz--

What is the perfect time to begin oiling the leather boots?

You can begin oiling your leather boots just a few days after they have completely broken-in because this is the time when the leather fibers will have no more danger from oils. To be very specific, you can begin oiling your boots just 4-5 days or 80-100 hours after the break-in is done to start with the preservation process.

What kind of Oil Should you put on Leather Boots?

Obviously you don't want to cook or deep fry your leather boots, right?

So, avoid any oil that is heavy or sticky or else they will settle in the pores and fibers of the leather and damage them entirely. They will create a cast of oil on the leather which would be very difficult to take off.

Therefore, you should always go for the oils which are non-sticky and get absorbed instantly leaving behind just the shine. Oils such as mink oil, obenauf oil are good options for your leather boots. The oils should have the following features:

1.) ***Waterproofing Feature:***

Other than giving shine, the next work of oil for your leather boots is to provide waterproofing against water, snow salt and perspiration stains. For this, the oil should have ingredients such as pine pitch and beeswax.

2.) ***Conditioning:***

The oil should be effective enough to provide conditioning for a long period in one single application. It should be from a good brand read the reviews carefully before selecting the oil.

3.) ***Natural blend and non-toxic oils:***

Chemical or toxic blends can ruin the natural fibers of the leather and decrease its lifespan. So, go for the oils which are natural blend.

4.) ***Light-weight and non-sticky:***

The oil should be very light textured and non-sticky. Or else, it will make the leather fibers drenched in it and never come off completely, ultimately ruining your leather boots forever.

How often should you oil your boots?

Oiling your leather boots should be preceded by cleaning them otherwise dirt and grime will settle in the fibers of the leather and end up getting your boots even dirtier. You may clean your boots using soap water or saddle soap. The oiling process should begin after the cleaning is done. It can be done once a week or in case of severe accumulation of dust, you can do the cleaning and oiling twice a week and no more than that.

Which Oil is the Best for Leather Boots?

1.) ***Natural blend specialized oils:***

Specialized oils such as Obenauf oils, Red Wing Heritage All Natural Boot Oil contain natural preserving oils, beeswax, pine pitch and propolis which nourish your leather fibers without making any damage to them, thus increasing their lifespan.

Beeswax and propolis provide waterproofing effect and natural oil blend nourish the leather fibers from the roots and protect, shine and condition them for the better.

2.) ***Animal oils:***

Animal oils such as mink oil is a good and cheap alternative to specialized oils which have quite similar properties and protect and condition the leather boots in a similar way

How to apply boot oil on leather boots?

1.) Clean your leather boots using soap water or saddle soap using a wet cloth.

2.) Dry them using a dryer.

3.) Then take the minimum amount of oil on a piece of lint free cloth and work in small circular motions on the leather.

4.) Next, take a dry cloth and take off the excess oil from the boots.

5.) Dry them using a dryer.

Stay Safe, Stay Strong!
Mantente Seguro, Mantenerte Fuerte

