



EAC's new advanced manufacturing program coming this fall

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HATCHER — Manufacturing is back.

1 Not only is it back in America but also at Eastern Arizona College, and it is more advanced than ever with a new program associated with the Arizona Regional Advanced Manufacturing Professional Upgrade Project (AZ RAMP Up).

3 RAMP Up is a collaborative effort involving Eastern Arizona College, Central Arizona College, Maricopa Mountain Community College Southwest Skill Center and Gateway Community College Maricopa Skill Center to provide state-of-the-art training for the next generation of advanced manufacturing workers.

"EAC can prepare you for a new career in advanced manufacturing, now considered the high-tech career of the future, where you will learn advanced machining concepts on lathes, mills, CNC machines, 3D scanning and printing, robotic plasma cutting, and laser engraving and cutting," said Jason Phillips, project site coordinator.

Students in EAC's advanced manufacturing program will focus on parts and project production, manufacturing operations, computer-aided manufacturing using parametric solid modeling software, team-oriented design concepts, sharing ideas to improve products and reverse engineering of products.

"By this time next year, students in our advanced manufacturing program will be studying and working in a fab lab environment and network where they will be able to share ideas and concepts with other students across the United States and around the world," Phillips said.

"Simply put, a fab lab (fabrication laboratory) is a small-scale workshop offering (personal) digital fabrication. A fab lab is generally equipped with an array of flexible computer-controlled tools that cover several different length scales and various materials, with the aim to make almost anything. We expect completion of our fab lab in the fall of 2016."

EAC offers an Associate of Applied Science degree in advanced manufacturing technology and three manufacturing technician certificate programs that focus on design and engineering.

This fall, the college is offering three new courses in the advanced manufacturing department:

- AMT102, section #0582, Materials for Industry, meets 8-8:50 a.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, in ITB-15.
- AMT104, section #0609, Machining and Fabrication, meets 8:30-10:55 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, in ITB-15.
- AMT110, section #0667, Intro to Fab Lab Technology, meets 9-11 a.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, in ITB-15.

EAC's new advanced manufacturing instructor Nathan McCray will teach all of the classes. EAC's advanced manufacturing program is eligible for the Workforce Investment Act or Trade Adjustment Assistance, which means qualified individuals may receive education and training benefits when participating in one of these degree or certificate programs.

To enroll in these or any EAC classes this fall, visit www.eac.edu and register online, or call the Records and Registration Office during regular business hours at 928-428-8270.

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