

Painting and Decorating





'I love all the nitty gritty chemistry parts of painting. I love seeing the students develop the same enthusiasm and passion that I have. It's a really beautiful job and I'm really enjoying doing it.'

Anouska



Painting and Decorating Tutor

What is your position and what do you teach?

I'm one of the tutors for the New Zealand Certificate in Construction Trade Skills (Level 3) Painting and Decorating programme. Over the 17 weeks of the programme, we equip students with the skills to enter the painting industry with confidence.

What are the main components of the programme?

One of the biggest components is the allied trades project. That's all the practical stuff in the workshop, where students work on a cubicle that's kind of like a mini house. They practice prep work, learn all the paint systems and types of paint, paint a door, and learn wallpapering and spraying.

Do students get work experience?

Fridays are dedicated to work experience. We have good relationships with businesses all over Wellington, so it's just a matter of matching the student with the right company in the most suitable location.

How often are students on campus?

The students come in Monday – Thursday, and then Fridays are for work experience. They come in at 9 and leave at 3. It makes it an easy transition for high school leavers, and for any older students with kids, it works well around school drop-off and pick-up times.

We always get a real mix of students enrol for this course, which is great to see. On average about a third of our students are female, but last trimester, it was up to half! The average age of our students is around 20-25, but some are as young as 17, and the oldest I've taught was in their forties.

How do you find being a female in a male-dominated industry?

I think it's super helpful for our students to see a female tutor, because the girls get to see some female representation, and the boys get a better idea of the diversity in the industry. It's not all males out there anymore, there's a growing number of women in the painting industry.

What pathways are there for students?

After students complete this programme, our hope is that they get into a company straight away. Their work experience usually sets them up well for this. If the company then offers them an apprenticeship, they'll go on to complete the National Certificate in Painting and Decorating (Level 4) with BCITO, which is delivered in partnership with us. So if all things go well, I get to see students back on campus shortly after graduating!

Follow the QR code below to read the full story.





Māori and Pasifika Trades Training

Ākongā Māori and Pacific looking to learn a trade can apply for a Māori and Pasifika Trades Training (MPTT) scholarship to cover full fees and course-related costs.

Tautoko while studying

Māori and Pasifika Trades Training scholarship students are supported by both Te Pūkenga - Whitireia and Te Pūkenga - WelTec through the Tamaiti Whāngai team.

The Tamaiti Whāngai team will support you with mentoring, goal setting, pastoral and cultural support. You'll have the opportunity to get your drivers license, site safe, and first aid certificates. The dedicated Tamaiti Whāngai Job Brokers have close links with employers and industry and will assist you to find an apprenticeship and/or employment.

Programmes where you can get a Māori and Pasifika Trades Training scholarship include - Automotive, Bakery, Collision Repair, Construction, Electrical Engineering, Hairdressing, Makeup and Skincare, Mechanical Engineering, Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying, Painting and Decorating, and Tiling.

Job Brokers

Our Tamaiti Whāngai Job Brokers have close with employers and have information of available jobs for MPTT ākongā.

We thank our iwi partners, Te Rūnanga o Te Āti Awa and Ngāti Toa Rangatira as well as our Pasifika partner, Mafutaga Faifeau Samoa for the support they provide to our Māori and Pasifika Trades Training scholarship students.

Scholarship criteria

You need to meet the entry criteria for the programme you are enrolling in and be:

- of Māori or Pacific decent
- 16-40 years old at the start of your study
- a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident
- able to meet the entry requirements for your programme

We want you to be passionate and show that you are motivated to succeed.

Get in touch

✉ twa@weltec.ac.nz



Job Brokers Tui and Tame

New Zealand Certificate in Construction Trade Skills (Level 3) Allied Trades- Painting and Decorating

📖	Level 3
🕒	18 weeks
📅	07 Jul 2025 (Petone)
💰	\$3,823 (indicative for 2025 intake)

Get skills to be able to professionally prepare surfaces and paint interior and exterior materials. This programme allows students to practice on real projects, developing skills in painting and decorating. Students will also learn safe worksite skills in preparation for working in the painting industry.

What you will learn

Learn to professionally prepare surfaces and paint interiors and exteriors. Develop your decorating skills by learning wallpapering and spray painting. Gain safe worksite skills so you're ready to work in industry. Get the opportunity to practice your skills in the workshop and on real projects.

- Gain painting and decorating employment skills
- Learn the safe use of painting and decorating materials
- Interpret work drawings, specifications and measure quantities
- Prepare surfaces using plastering techniques and apply paint by brush and roller to manufacturers' specifications
- Learn how to prepare and apply wallpaper
- Use conventional and airless spray equipment
- Erect scaffolding for painting and apply site safety procedures in construction work
- Follow industry health and safety protocols

More detail about this qualification

Students may be eligible for fees free, check the [fees free](#) website for more information.

Career options

Begin work as an apprentice in painting and decorating or seek employment in paint sales, warehousing and manufacturing. Other construction trade areas, such as plastering and tiling, are also an option.

- Painter
- Decorator

Entry requirements

Open Entry.

**For fee exclusions, please see our [terms and conditions](#).

[Programme Handbook](#)



Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is correct at the time of print. Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga reserves the right to cancel or postpone any of the programmes, and shall not be liable for any claim other than the proportion of programme fees that the cancelled portion bears. Some programmes may be dependent upon formal approval from NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority), TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) funding allocation, and the number of enrolments. As part of the NZQA targeted review of all Level 1-6 New Zealand qualifications, there may still be changes to some programmes starting in 2024. Fees, programmes, entry and selection criteria, and dates, are subject to change. Please check the relevant programme pages at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz for up-to-date information and full entry regulations before applying to enrol. Information regarding English language requirements is available on each course page at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz.