

The Inland Career Education Center (ICEC) in San Bernardino, California, used EdReady to help a group of welders master the math skills they would need to pass the national Beginning Welding Certification. Passing this certification enabled the students to join the workforce. For those who wanted to move forward with additional training, it also allowed them to gain endorsements in specialized welding programs.

Implementation

In the spring of 2017, Rosa Leon Blanco, an academic instructor at ICEC, set out to integrate academic and technology skills into her CTE welding class. These welding students were kinesthetic learners, who preferred to use their hands manipulating machinery and completing hands-on tasks. So when Blanco asked them to sit down at a computer and login to EdReady, she was met with a great deal of resistance and comments like, “I don’t have an email. Do I need one for this class?” or “I hate computers!”

During the first 90-minute class period, the students struggled to log on to the computers and the Internet in general. Blanco walked students through the EdReady registration process step-by-step so that by the end of the class, they had successfully logged in and out of EdReady several times. The second class was a challenge because many of the students

had already forgotten their login information, including passwords. Blanco worked to help them retrieve those passwords so they could get back to learning. By the time they met for their third class, students were adapting to the new style of learning and were able to log in to their accounts without any challenges.

During that third class, Blanco began to see a shift in her students’ attitudes. They began to bring their own laptops, smartphones, and tablets to class, and it was often difficult to get students to leave at the end of scheduled class time. The EdReady math lessons had captivated students’ attention, so much so that some even asked if they could login and use EdReady outside of class. By the end of the semester, all 15 of the welding students earned their national Beginning Welding Certification. They had not only mastered fundamental math skills needed for welding, but also learned valuable technological skills that will facilitate their job search.



**Inland Career
Education Center**
San Bernardino City Unified Adult School

DETAILS

WHO WAS SERVED: Adult Ed welding students

WHEN: Spring 2017

NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 15

IMPLEMENTATION: Lab setting, 1 day per week, 4 hours per day over a 10-week period, with supervision and encouragement from the academic instructor

INSTRUCTIONAL APPLICATION: Test prep for Beginning Welding Certification

“I am very proud of this group of kinesthetic learners!”

*-- Rosa Leon Blanco,
Academic Instructor at
Inland Career Education
Center*

THE POWER OF EDREADY & TECHNOLOGY TO TRANSFORM LEARNERS

TEACHING KINESTHETIC WELDING STUDENTS



A small group of welders at **Inland Career Education Center** (San Bernardino City Unified Adult School) were assigned to review math subjects. But not using a textbook, they were asked to create accounts and log-on to online lessons from the Welding Technology assessment through EdReady. These kinesthetic learners wanted to use their hands manipulating objects and machinery. Their initial response was less than enthusiastic!

I'm using technology to find work, take additional welding certifications and earning a living wage.

After completing their initial math pathway, all learners took their national welder certification. This performance-based assessment allowed learners to showcase their welding skills to a proctor. **Every learner passed their Certified Welder exam!** They were now ready to move forward with additional training and endorsements in specialized welding programs if they choose. Of course, their certification qualified them to begin welding work immediately too!

Learners struggled to log-on and remember their username, password and other credentials. But after the 3rd class day, learners looked forward to learning math through EdReady and were able to log-in without further trouble. **They were captivated by the individualized lessons and some began asking about using EdReady outside the classroom.** They brought (and sometimes bought!) laptops, smartphones and tablets to class to ensure they could access EdReady. Keep in mind, most of these students proclaimed long and loud their dislike of technology on day one!



Credits and Contact Information:
 Many thanks to Rosa Leon Blanco, Instructor,
 Inland Career Education Center and her welding students.
 Graphic design: Michael Pierce,
 Multimedia Design Specialist, OTAN
 For further information contact Penny Pearson,
 Coordinator Distance Learning Projects, ppearson@otan.us

It is important to note that after the initial struggles, learners started to stay longer and longer in the computer lab. The teacher discovered not only were they using the computers to complete EdReady lessons, they were researching jobs, filling out online applications and looking at careers that involved welding. It was often a struggle to get them **out** of the computer lab!



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This poster was created by the Outreach and Technical Assistance Network (OTAN), which is a California adult education leadership project providing professional development, information and collaboration services related to online and distance learning and educational technology integration for the field. The use of EdReady by the Inland Career Education Center came through OTAN's direct efforts to share new curriculum and resources to the adult education field in California.