



Dan McCauley Teacher Spotlight

Written by Mike Maloney, Instructor Liaison Director

1. Which skilled trade are you currently teaching?

- Electrical – Level 2

2. When did you start at Gould as an instructor?

- 2018

3. How did you get into being a teacher?

- Gould was reaching out to alumni with opportunities to join the team

4. What do you like about being a teacher?

- Everything. I enjoy breaking concepts down and exploring multiple paths of explanation with priority to getting a message across. I enjoy the challenges faced when getting to know a class. A sort of real-time obstacle of adaption ebbs and flows between the instructor and the students. That is a very unique and rewarding experience to be a part of.

5. How would you describe your teaching style?

- I prefer to take deep dives into topics in hopes to pull out interesting details with intent to potentiate engagement and interest. I also make a point to 'zoom out' and provide big picture views for students to gain awareness. Usually, this makes for a relatively casual and democratic style.

6. What should someone know about being an apprentice?

- I believe there is an un-ending amount of information an apprentice is responsible and obligated to know. There is not enough time for even the fast learners to catch it all in their time as an apprentice. Being aware of just that is a good place to start, the urgency and importance in gathering as much information as possible in the time they have.

7. What does it take for someone to be a successful apprentice?

- An apprentice should always remain teachable, and open minded. An apprentice should also always be interested in their work, and able to engage challenges. Above all, an apprentice should be willing to find comfortability in uncomfortable situations.

8. When not instructing, what do you do to unwind?

- Not much time goes to unwinding. Usually, outside of the classroom, I am using my time to do all of the things I preached above. Remaining teachable and open minded by trying to learn new skills, taking on new interests and challenges, and on occasion I will spend some time with an Xbox and a controller.

9. If you were not a journeyman and teacher, what would be doing for a career?

- I am working towards a full-time career as a professional trader. With that, I am self-educating myself into the world of coding and automation. My long-term goals are to regain minutes in my day and re-distribute those minutes to the people, places, and things I enjoy.