



Spring Teacher Spotlight: Rich Cormio, Electrical 3

By Mike Maloney, Instructor Liaison Director

Which skilled trade are you currently teaching?

Electrical 3

When did you start at Gould as an instructor?

2006

How did you get into being a teacher?

"I bumped into my former apprentice Tony Puccio while shopping one night and he told me that he was teaching evening school. He mentioned that they were looking for teachers, so I called. I had always thought about teaching at the voke, and I believed that this would be a good way to see if I enjoyed it."

What do you like about being a teacher?

"I love telling stories that relate what the students are learning to real-life experience. I get a thrill whenever a student passes their license exam. I feel as though, in a small way, I might have helped them achieve a goal."

How would you describe your teaching style?

"Diverse. I try to change things up by offering power-points, videos and magazine articles to explain either the text of the book or the NEC Code questions of that particular night. I have the advantage of teaching day school at Medford Voc-Tech, which provides me with more material and "props" than most teachers."

What should someone know about being an apprentice?

"This is not an easy job you are going to get dirty, but you're going to get paid."

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

"I actually asked this question on a social media Electricians page. I got so many responses, but the main theme was the same mantra that I have been preaching for years: to show-up and ask questions. Don't start a project if you do not fully understand what is expected of you."

When not instructing, what do you do to unwind?

- "Hang-out with my family, especially my grandkids!"
- "I love watching the Sox and Pats, and we enjoy spending time up in North Conway."

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

"TV weatherman. Is there another job that you can be well paid and respected for being wrong much of the time?"

Favorite part of being a teacher for Gould Construction Institute?

"The success stories and the friendships that I have made with the office staff and my fellow teachers."