



Melody Heise, Coordinator
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Greetings!

I'm writing to you to introduce myself as the coordinator of the new NAIT **Apprenticeship Readiness** program (AR).

AR is a nine course program designed to prepare students to write the Apprenticeship Entrance exam as administered by Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training. Any apprentice who does not have the necessary academic prerequisites to register into his or her trade must successfully complete this exam to become an indentured apprentice in the province of Alberta.

Currently, the failure rate on the exam is greater than 50%. NAIT's **Apprenticeship Readiness** training was created to address this shortfall, as well as give new apprentices a good background in general trades knowledge and safety. As of Spring 2008, we had a **100% success rate** for AR students successfully passing the Apprenticeship Entrance exam, and are awaiting similarly positive results for the latest group of students, who wrote in February 2009.

Students entering the AR program need **Grade 10 Mathematics and English (Math 10 or 13 AND English 10 or 13)**. Note that Math 24 is not considered to be equivalent. For students who are unsure of their skill level in these areas, a diagnostic assessment can be taken through NAIT for a nominal fee.

As well as being able to successfully challenge the Apprenticeship Entrance exam, we expect that our students will come away from the program with improved communication and job search skills, and the ability to make informed decisions about their career goals in the trades. They will also be well-grounded in current on-the-job safety practices.

If you have a student who is considering a career in the trades, but has struggled academically, this may be an ideal program for him/her. **Apprenticeship Readiness Spring 2009** is slated on seven non-consecutive weekends beginning April 17, 2009 (please see the attached information sheet). My administrative Assistant **Marci Bower (780.471.8488)** or myself would be happy to answer any questions you might have about the program, or set up a diagnostic assessment for one of your students. I can be reached by telephone at **(780) 471-7756** or via e-mail at areyouready@nait.ca.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to working with you to help your students into successful and rewarding careers in the trades.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M Heise'.

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