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... FALL 2021

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www.btc.edu/financialresources

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

TRACEY MARTEN

Process Technology Program

What is your name and program?

My name is Tracey Marten, and I attend the Process Technology Program (PTEC) at BTC.

What made you decide to attend BTC?

I was at a turning point in my life. I was in the process of getting divorced and about to become a single mother of three with no formal education, aside from my military service. My family lives in Bellingham and I knew that I would be returning to the area. BTC ended up being a good fit and was actually very easy to get started with.

What would you tell another student who was wondering if they should attend BTC?

I would absolutely tell someone to attend BTC! I have enjoyed my time here and have had some amazing teachers and classes that I have loved. I even ended up loving English 101, which I was dreading taking. All thanks to one of the best teachers I have ever had—a shout-out to Ms. Jan Richards.

I switched programs a couple of times before finding PTEC. I started out wanting to be a radiologic technologist, but the wait list was crazy, and I needed to get on my path sooner than that program allowed. So, I switched to the Nursing program. I took a couple quarters worth of the prerequisites before I found the PTEC program. As soon as

I stumbled upon this program, I knew it was what I really wanted to do and enrolled in it the next quarter. Anyway, my point is that this college has made everything so easy and so enjoyable. Anyone who is looking to finally focus on themselves for a change, and do something that will better your life and your family's life, this is the place for you.

I thought I would feel so weird and that I would be the oldest person in the class and that people would judge me for waiting so long. Boy was I wrong. This has been one of the best and most rewarding parts of my life. Now is the time! And the answer is YES, you absolutely can do this!!!



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED...

What inspired you to go into the trades?

I was about to become a single mother of three. At the end of the day getting into one of the trades is hard and long work, but it pays well and offers good benefits. If you are willing to put the time in, you will be able to support your family with a great career. The degree path at BTC is also half the time of a four-year degree, and puts you in the same earning potential.

What has been your experience learning at BTC so far?

I have had a fantastic experience here, one that I wouldn't trade for anything. I have found more of myself here more than I ever could have ever imagined. After spending the prior 7 years as a stay-at-home mom, and 11 years in the military before that, I wasn't sure what I wanted to be when I "grew up". When you are a stay-at-home parent, you lose a bit of yourself because your time is fully devoted to your family. Or, at least that's how it was for me. I never had time to do the things that I wanted to do, and I lost interest in outside hobbies because my kids had extremely busy sports schedules. Coming back to school helped me find myself again! I could not be happier about my decision to attend BTC.

Have you experienced any challenges and, if so, how did you overcome them?

My challenges have been ensuring I make the time for

studying even when I am at home and all of my kids are going bonkers! My thought process is that if you are not going to make the time to devote to really learning the material in your classes, then you are probably not ready to be here. I have had to spend many weekends laying on the floor in front of my computer with my kids getting annoyed that I cannot fully focus on them. So, my biggest challenge was and still is making sure that my children know I have to devote enough time to school. I spent so many years dropping everything that I was doing to take them where they needed to go or help them with school, that it has taken some reprogramming for them to understand that I have a new thing going on, that has to come first sometimes and that in the long run it will benefit all of us. For the most part they have been wonderful with it, thank goodness!!

What have your instructors done to help you be successful?

My instructors...

I cannot speak highly enough of these guys. This program wouldn't be what it is without Scott Cory and Brian Aries. Scott might be one of the most knowledgeable people I have ever met, and he was built to teach this program. As long as you show that you are putting in all the effort you should to this program he will be there with you bending over backwards to make sure you really understand this material. He wants to ensure that he delivers quality people

to the industry that he has devoted his life to, he is strict and sticks to his guns, as he should, as he is a fantastic teacher.

Brian Aries is newer to the program. He is also a phenomenal instructor! If there is anything you need his door is always open. If there is a question you have he is there to answer it, and if it is something that requires additional research he will write it down and without fail will get back to you the next day, if not that same day. Even if what you need has no relation to the class he is there to listen to you. He is there to mentor you throughout this whole program! They are both amazing people who will give you their all if it helps you learn the material.

How did you hear about BTC?

My dad was the one who told me about BTC. I had always known that Western was in Bellingham because my brother attended. The funny thing is, and I just found this out, my father was actually pretty good friends with Ron Grubbs, who was actually one of the first few people to come through and teach for the PTEC program!

How many classes did you take and what are your plans for your future?

So far, I have taken 25 classes here, including this quarter. I have one last class scheduled for this summer to get it completed before I take the next step of my educational journey. I am planning on entering the BASOPS program to complete my bachelor's degree here at BTC!

What are your biggest takeaways from your time at BTC?

I guess I just want people my age, especially single parents who wonder how in the world they can make the time for this, to know that they can absolutely do this. Start one class at a time if you have to, just to get yourself going. But get on it. It may feel like it is taking forever, but at the end of it you will wonder where in the world the time has gone. It feels fantastic to know that in less than a month I will have an associate's degree.

Also, if you are a Veteran, this is a fantastic place to be. And a shout-out to Alisen Outlaw, who handles everything that has to do with the military members. She is pretty darn amazing and is always there with a fast response to any questions. I have never had any problems with anything because she stays on top of everything! She even sends reminders out to all of us to get back to her with our schedules for the next quarter because we tend to forget, and yet there she is always there reminding us what to do even with the heaps of work we create for her!

So, a big Thank you to everyone here that makes BTC work. I have loved my time here, and I hope to spend the next two years enjoying more of that time! My hope is that my journey inspires someone else make the decision to take that next step and get back into school. It is super worth it! I started "late" is what I thought, but it's never too late.

CONTINUING EDUCATION PORTFOLIO

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- SHRM: Continuing Education classes for CDUs

LEADERSHIP & BUSINESS SKILLS

- Essentials of Project Management
- PMP Exam Prep (CPM and PMP)
- Certificate in Planning and Inventory Mgt (CPIM)
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INDUSTRY & TRADES CERTIFICATIONS

- Welding, Flagging & Forklift
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HEALTH & WELLNESS

- CPR & First Aid
- Healthcare Professionals Training
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PERSONAL ENRICHMENT

- Recreation & Leisure
- Food & Beverage
- Hobbies & Interests

INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CLOCK HOURS & CDUs AVAILABLE



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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EDUCATION AT BTC**



**ALL REGISTRATIONS AND PAYMENTS FOR ALL FALL
QUARTER CLASSES MUST BE COMPLETE BY OCTOBER 1**

CUSTOMIZED CORPORATE TRAINING

BTC's Customized Corporate Training provides convenient and flexible training services potential. BTC will collaborate with you to design training solutions customized to fit the requirements, developing specific pathways to help your employees & business thrive. Training is available at your site, online or on our campus. Email: kmathews@btc.edu

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OUR STATE-FUNDED
JOB SKILLS PROGRAM**



CHILD & FAMILY STUDIES

CHILDBIRTH

Preparation for Childbirth & Parenting \$199

Course fees waived for those covered by WA Apple Health (Medicaid) waivers.

M 9/13-11/1 6-8:30 p.m.

W 10/20-12/15 6-8:30 p.m.

Pregnancy & Childbirth \$149

Course fees waived for those covered by WA Apple Health (Medicaid) waivers.

T 9/7-10/5 6-8:30 p.m.

Th 10/7-11/4 *online* 6-8:30 p.m.

M 11/15-12/13 6-8:30 p.m.

Prep. For Childbirth: Weekend Cond. \$149

Course fees waived for those covered by WA Apple Health (Medicaid) waivers.

SaSu 9/18-9/19 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

SaSu 11/6-11/7 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Note: Class times are Sa 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m and Su 12:30-5:30 p.m.

Hypnotic Childbirth \$149

W 9/8-10/6 *online* 6-8:30 p.m.

W 10/20-11/17 *online* 6-8:30 p.m.

Comfort Techniques for Labor & Birth \$40

Th 9/16 6-8:30 p.m.

Th 10/14 6-8:30 p.m.

Th 11/18 6-8:30 p.m.

Breastfeeding Basics & Beyond \$40

Sa 9/18 9-11:30 a.m.

Sa 10/16 *online* 10-11 a.m.

Sa 11/20 9-11:30 a.m.

BABY CONNECTIONS

Bringing Baby Home \$199

M 9/13-10/11 *online* 6:30-8:30 p.m.

M 10/18-11/22 *online* 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Baby 'N' Me (1-7 months) \$149

W 9/29-11/17 1-3 p.m.

M 9/27-11/15 *online* 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Baby 'N' Me (8-12 months) \$149

F 10/1-11/19 1-3 p.m.

M 9/27-11/15 *online* 2:30-4:30 p.m.

ALL REGISTRATIONS AND PAYMENTS
FOR ALL FALL QUARTER CLASSES
MUST BE COMPLETE BY OCTOBER 1

Baby 'N' Me - Walk & Talk \$99

M 9/20-10/18 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

M 10/25-11/22 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Raising Toddlers and Preschoolers \$99

T 10/19-11/16 6-8 p.m.

Exploring with Toddlers \$149-\$199

M 9/20-11/22 9-11 a.m.

T 9/21-11/30 9-11 a.m.

M 9/20-11/22 *online* 9 a.m.

More Than One (0-5) \$149-\$249

M 9/20-11/22 5:30-7 p.m.

W 9/22-11/24 9-11:30 a.m.

Th 9/23-12/9 9-11:30 a.m.

F 9/24-12/3 9-11:30 a.m.

Th 9/23-12/9 *online* 9 a.m.

Raising School Age Children \$79

T 9/21-10/12 *online* 6-7:30 p.m.

T 10/19-11/9 *online* 6-7:30 p.m.

CHILDBIRTH CLASS SCHOLARSHIPS
PEACEHEALTH PROVIDES HALF-
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ALL BTC CHILD-
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Expanded Functions Dental Auxiliary
Medical Administration
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Nursing Assistant
Radiologic Technology
Surgery Technology
Veterinary Technician

BUSINESS

Accounting Technician
Administrative Assistant
Business (DTA/MRP)
Business Management
Human Resources Specialist
Office Assistant
Operations Management Certificate
Social Media Marketing

CULINARY ARTS

Culinary Arts
Pastry Arts

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Civil
Clean Energy
Composites
Electronics Technician
Geomatics
Mechanical Design

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Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences
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Electrician
HVAC & Refrigeration

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Computer Networking Articulation to a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity from WWU
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Auto Collision Repair Technology
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Many BTC programs are cohort model and only start once a year. To be eligible to register, complete admissions steps 1, 2, 3 at: www.btc.edu/Admissions, or meet with an Admissions Specialist at btc.edu/AdmissionsAppointment

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BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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