

# INSTRUCTOR BIO



**MITCH KOHANEK**

Mitch Kohanek has been an instructor for the Wood Finishing Technology Program at Dakota County Technical College since 1978. His graduates become the best professional finishers, furniture restorers, spot repair artists, and pre-finishers this country has to offer.

DCTC's Wood Finishing program is the only certified finishing program in the United States, and has been featured in *Fine Woodworking* and *Better Homes and Gardens Wood*.

Mitch completed an internship at the Smithsonian Conservation and Analytical Laboratory and is a member of the American Institute of Conservation. He has lectured all over the United States, and is a consultant for the finishing industry. Currently, he lectures for the Woodworking Shows out of Los Angeles.

## CONTACT US!

### Wood Finishing Technology Program

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[WWW.WOODFINISHING.ORG](http://WWW.WOODFINISHING.ORG)

## STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

"It gave me the opportunity to learn a trade that would have taken years of apprenticeship to learn and understand."

- Dwayne Vogel

"The knowledge and practical training provided by the program allows me to keep up easily with the daily challenges."

- Wilfried Hein

"Mitch was totally committed to my success, as well as each of the other students in my class."

- Richard Herron

"DCTC's Wood Finishing program goes way beyond 'turn it brown and shoot sticky stuff on it.' It gives the students the knowledge to really set their wood working apart from everybody else's on the market."

- Chris Bakken

"I was so impressed with the 'Finishing New Wood' program that I took an extra week off work so I could stay for the 'Advanced Finishing' program."

-Charlie Kocourek



**DAKOTA COUNTY**  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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# WOOD FINISHING EDUCATION



**THE NATIONAL  
INSTITUTE OF  
WOOD FINISHING**

Dakota County Technical College is home to the National Institute of Wood Finishing. We have been training the country's best professional wood finishers, furniture restorers, spot repair artists, and pre-finishers since 1973.

## 2007 WOOD FINISHING WORKSHOPS

### ▶ BEGINNING SPOT REPAIR I

**July 5-6, 2007**

This class teaches the conventional way of spot repair used in this country for decades. Burn-ins, graining, and padding techniques will be used on nicks, dents, and scratches on wood and coatings. Polyester fills, aerosol cans of clears, and toners will be covered for larger repairs as well.

### ▶ FINISHING NEW WOOD

**July 9-13, 2007**

This is a hands-on class with enough classroom to understand why you are using these materials. You will learn methods for using dyes, stains, glazes, and fillers to create beautiful colors. You will learn the application of finishes using pads, brushes, and spraying equipment using oils, shellac, lacquer, varnish, and waterbase. All of this – and learning how to adjust the sheen and protect the finished surface – will give you the confidence to take the fear out of finishing.

### ▶ ADVANCED FINISHING

**July 16-20, 2007**

This is a five-day workshop focusing on custom finishing techniques that will enhance your projects. Starting with prepping raw wood samples, students will proceed with step-by-step processes, keeping a written record of each step. A wide range of finishing techniques will be covered, including water base dyes, stain on dye, bleaching, clear and opaque coatings, and special effects such as crackle lacquer. Top coating will range from open pore, full-filled pore, off-the-gun, sating rub, and high gloss polishing.

### ▶ FURNITURE REFINISHING, RESTORATION, AND CONSERVATION

**July 23-27, 2007**

Topics to be covered are restoration techniques, solvent cleaning, finish removal, wood technology and wood identification, understanding adhesives and re-gluing techniques, bleaching, sanding, basic coloring techniques, color matching, choosing a finish, finish application techniques, and finishing the finish procedures. Emphasis will also be placed on working with checked finishes, re-amalgamation of finishes, French Polishing with shellac, and veneer patching.

### ▶ TECHNIQUES FOR VENEER AND STRUCTURAL RESTORATION

**August 6-10, 2007**

Specific topics for the week include fabricating raw veneer for restoration, consolidation and compensation for damaged veneered areas including fabricating or refabricating marquetry, and assessing and responding to structural damage or losses. This includes adhesive choices, consolidation, joinery repair, and fabrication of missing parts by traditional and non-traditional methods such as carving, joinery, and molding and casting. Finally, we will wrap-up with the issues of visual integration of the object as a whole.

Please visit our Web site for full workshop details.

## NINE-MONTH DIPLOMA PROGRAM

The National Institute of Wood Finishing is on Dakota County Technical College's campus in Rosemount, Minnesota. The college is home to the only certified Wood Finishing Technology program in the United States.

Since 1973, the Wood Finishing program has produced some of the nation's best professional wood finishers, furniture restorers, spot repair artists, and pre-finishers.

The instructor, Mitch Kohanek, is a member of the American Institute of Conservation and has interned at the Smithsonian Conservation and Analytical Laboratory in Washington D.C. Mitch and his nationally recognized program have been featured in magazines such as *Fine Woodworking*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, and *Professional Refinishing*.

A full-time student will complete the 36 credits of the wood finishing core classes in nine months. Classes are five to six hours per day, five days per week, for two 16-week semesters.

It is possible to attend classes on a part-time basis. Some classes do have prerequisites, so it is recommended to contact the instructor or an academic counselor for supervision in choosing classes.

Whatever your educational requirements are, the National Institute of Wood Finishing at Dakota County Technical College can help you make it happen!

**CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE!**

**National Institute of Wood Finishing**

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