

Shodan Josh Neely:

I started training martial arts when I was about five years old. My first martial arts were Taekwon Do where I would receive the rank of purple belt before the school was closed. After that I moved on to another form of martial arts called Tang So Do where I would receive my first Black belt around the preteen years. At that school I would also receive the rank of red belt in a form of Korean Sword martial arts called Haedong Kumdo.



I would then proceed to move to American Freestyle Karate Club – Fort Mill where I worked my way up from a white belt all the way to the rank of Shodan. American Freestyle Karate Club – Fort Mill was where I have spent the majority of my middle school and all of my high school career. I learned some of the most valuable traits that have stuck with me throughout my college career at the University of South Carolina where I received a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and my current job career.



I am currently working with a company that is a contractor for Duke Energy. Even though life has gotten busy and I have not been able to go to class as often as I would like, the character traits that I have learned under Kyoshi Lingerfelt and Shihan Godfrey has made an indelible mark on me not only as a martial artist but as faithful Christian man.