



The Chartered Institution of Wastes Management

FOUNDATION DEGREE (FdSc) IN SUSTAINABLE WASTES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The Foundation Degree is designed to meet the needs of those working at operator to junior management level in the wastes management industry. As well as providing an opportunity to learn about the science and management that is a vital part of the wastes management industry, the course includes workplace assignments and visits, and also provides the underpinning knowledge for those who wish to become Associate Members of CIWM.

WHAT IS A FOUNDATION DEGREE?

Foundation Degrees are today's answer to work-centred education. The Department for Education and Skills (DfES) established the first pilot Foundation Degrees in 2000, and a number of Foundation Degree programmes have been successfully established over the last nine years.

Foundation Degrees are developed in association with local employers and the relevant professional body, and seek to provide a programme that is focused on the knowledge and understanding required by today's industries, so that graduates from Foundation Degree programmes are well-equipped for successful careers in their chosen industry.

As well as being a qualification in its own right, a Foundation Degree (FdSc) allows individuals to progress on to other degree programmes such as a BSc, or even an MSc with additional study and / or experience.

The Foundation Degree is also available as an extension to the HNC in wastes management through the University of Northampton.

FOUNDATION DEGREE IN SUSTAINABLE WASTES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The Foundation Degree in Sustainable Wastes and Environmental Management is available as a part-time or distance learning programme. For part-time, the learning is spread over three years. Students attend college for one day a week during term time for lectures and practicals. In addition to the formal taught elements of the course, students will visit a range of waste management and industrial facilities and also undertake assignments and projects related to their place of work.

For the distance learning option there is no attendance requirement. However, there is a work based module, which as the name implies involves study at the student's workplace. In addition, optional Residential Weekends will be held each year where students can not only meet their peer group and tutors but also be

given help and advice on specific aspects of the course as well as strategies to develop their learning.

The course is made up of ten modules spread equally across the three years. Examples of modules are described below.

***An Introduction to Sustainable Wastes Management* 20 Credit Points**

The module will cover the sources and amounts of various different types of wastes and their impact upon the environment and human society. This module will introduce many of the fundamentals that will be elaborated during the course.

***Scientific basis for the Management of Wastes* 20 Credit Points**

The module covers fundamental elements of mathematics, chemistry and physics, biological systems, and geology and hydrogeology in relation to the management of wastes. The student will develop a sound understanding of fundamental scientific principles that underpin the sustainable management of wastes.

***Applying Science to the Management of Wastes* 20 Credit Points**

The module covers the scientific assessment of wastes streams, including the evaluation of treatment and disposal options, and associated themes. The module focuses on the application of science to the management of wastes and will include lectures, laboratory-based practicals and field visits.

***Waste Management Policy and Legislation* 20 Credit Points**

The module considers the role of international bodies such as the United Nations and the European Commission, as well as national governments, in the development of laws related to the management of wastes. The importance of statutory law and case law in the management of wastes is also covered. Class-based case studies will be developed throughout the module to illustrate the concepts that are discussed.

***Economic and Financial Aspects of Wastes Management* 20 Credit Points**

The module considers the fiscal mechanisms that may be used to control adverse environmental impacts, and also considers markets for recyclates, and financial management within the wastes management industry. Delivered primarily through lectures supported by seminars, the course material will focus on examples drawn from industry.

***Key Concepts in Wastes and Environmental Management* 20 Credit Points**

The module discusses concepts that underpin the philosophy of sustainable development. The module explains the options that are available to control and minimise adverse environmental impacts resulting from human activities. The module will be delivered through lectures supported by suitable case studies, including workplace assignments, site visits and seminars.

***Managing the Handling, Treatment and Disposal of Wastes* 40 Credit Points**

The module explains how wastes are dealt with in today's waste management industry. It includes a consideration of the National Wastes Strategy and the various options that are available to deal with wastes. The module will also cover the management of street cleansing activities and civic amenities.

Managing Human Resources in the Waste Industry ***20 Credit Points***

The module covers the management of internal and external human relations, as well as a consideration of the management of health and safety issues in the wastes management industry. It will be delivered primarily through lectures, supported by the use of appropriate examples and case studies.

Administration of Wastes Management Policy ***20 Credit Points***

The module covers the role of the regulatory authorities in England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland in the management of wastes; and the responsibilities of local authorities in the administration of local environmental policies and pollution control.

Research Skills and Individual Project ***40 Credit Points***

For the Foundation Degree, the student is required to undertake an independent project and to produce a detailed written report on their findings. Guided by a dedicated tutor, the research project will focus on a topic related to the individual student's place of work.

For further information please contact:

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