



Syllabus summary –

National Certificate in
Environmental Management

March 2009 specification

Syllabus summary - NEBOSH National Certificate in Environmental Management

Structure

The qualification is divided into 2 units.

The first unit is further divided into a number of elements:

Unit NEC1 Management and control of environmental hazards

Element Number/Title	Recommended Hours of Tuition	Page
1 Foundations in environmental management	6	3
2 Environmental management systems	6	3
3 Environmental impact assessments	7	4
4 Control of emissions to air	2	4
5 Control of contamination of water resources	3	4
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Minimum total tuition time 35

Recommended private study time 25

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Unit NEC2 Environmental practical application

1 Environmental practical application	2	7
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There is no separate syllabus content for this unit.

Minimum total tuition time 2

Recommended private study time 8

Total minimum total tuition time 37

Total directed private study hours 33

Unit assessment summary 8

Further Details 8

Unit NEC1: Management and control of environmental hazards

Element 1: Foundations in environmental management

Learning outcomes

On completion of this element, candidates should be able to demonstrate understanding of the content through the application of knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations. In particular they should be able to:

- Outline the scope and nature of environmental management
- Explain the ethical, legal and financial reasons for maintaining and promoting environmental management
- Outline the importance of sustainability
- Outline the legal framework for the regulation of environmental management
- Describe the roles and powers of enforcement agencies, the judiciary and external agencies

Recommended tuition time not less than 6 hours

Element 2: Environmental management systems

Learning outcomes

On completion of this element, candidates should be able to demonstrate understanding of the content through the application of knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations. In particular they should be able to:

- Identify the reasons for implementing an environmental management system (EMS)
- Describe the key features and appropriate content of an effective EMS, ie, ISO 14001:2004, BS 8555
- Identify the benefits and limitations of introducing ISO 14001/BS 8555 into the workplace.

Recommended tuition time not less than 6 hours

Element 3: Environmental impact assessments

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes

On completion of this element, candidates should be able to demonstrate understanding of the content through the application of knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations. In particular they should be able to:

- Explain the reasons for carrying out environmental impact assessments
- Describe the types of environmental impact
- Identify the nature and key sources of environmental information
- Explain the principles and practice of impact assessment

Recommended tuition time not less than 7 hours

Element 4: Control of emissions to air

Learning outcomes

On completion of this element, candidates should be able to demonstrate understanding of the content through the application of knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations. In particular they should be able to:

- Outline the principles of air quality standards
- Outline the main types of emissions to atmosphere and the associated hazards
- Outline control measures that are available to reduce emissions

Recommended tuition time not less than 2 hours

Element 5: Control of contamination of water sources

Learning outcomes

On completion of this element, candidates should be able to demonstrate understanding of the content through the application of knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations. In particular they should be able to:

- Outline the importance of the quality of water for life
- Outline the main sources of water pollution
- Outline the main control measures that are available to reduce contamination of water sources.

Recommended tuition time not less than 3 hours

Element 6: Control of waste and land use

Learning outcomes

On completion of this element, candidates should be able to demonstrate understanding of the content through the application of knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations. In particular they should be able to:

- Outline categories of waste
- Explain the importance of minimising waste
- Outline how to manage waste
- Describe outlets available for waste
- Outline the risks associated with contaminated land.

Recommended tuition time not less than 4 hours

Element 7: Sources of use of energy and energy efficiency

Learning outcomes

On completion of this element, candidates should be able to demonstrate understanding of the content through the application of knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations. In particular they should be able to:

- Outline the benefits and limitations of fossil fuels
- Outline alternative sources of energy and their benefits and limitations
- Explain why energy efficiency is important to the business
- Outline the control measures available to enable energy efficiency

Recommended tuition time not less than 3 hours

Element 8: Control of environmental noise

Learning outcomes

On completion of this element, candidates should be able to demonstrate understanding of the content through the application of knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations. In particular they should be able to:

- Describe the potential sources of environmental noise and their consequences
- Outline the methods available for the control of environmental noise.

Recommended tuition time not less than 2 hours

Element 9: Planning for and dealing with environmental emergencies

Learning outcomes

On completion of this element, candidates should be able to demonstrate understanding of the content through the application of knowledge to familiar and unfamiliar situations. In particular they should be able to:

- Explain why emergency preparedness and response is essential to protect the environment
- Describe the measures that need to be in place when planning for emergencies.

Recommended tuition time not less than 2 hours

Unit NEC2: Environmental Practical Application

Purpose and Aim

The aim of this unit is to assess a candidate's ability to complete successfully two activities:

- To demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge of the NEC1 syllabus, by successful completion of an environmental review of the candidate's own workplace using the NEBOSH Environmental review proforma.
- Complete a report to management regarding the review with recommendations, using the NEBOSH Environmental review report template. The proforma and report should clearly identify:
 - The nature and location of each environmental issue;
 - The degree of risk associated with the environmental issue;
 - Preventative and protective environmental measures already in place;
 - The remedial actions, where appropriate, with relevant prioritisation.

Link to examination unit(s)

Unit NEC2 is not normally offered independently of the taught elements. Students will normally be required to complete the NEC2 assessment within 14 days (before or after) of sitting the examination for Unit NEC1. Course providers will set the date on which the completed practical application must be submitted to them to ensure they are marked and the results submitted to NEBOSH within 21 days of the date of the written examination. Completion of study for NEC1 is recommended in order to undertake the practical application unit (NEC2).

Recommended tuition time not less than 2 hours

Unit assessment summary

Unit NEC1 is a taught unit, assessed by one two-hour written examination. Each written examination consists of ten 'short-answer' questions and one 'long-answer' question. All questions are compulsory. Candidate scripts are marked by external examiners appointed by NEBOSH.

Unit NEC2 is assessed by one three-hour practical examination. This is held on a date set by the course provider and must be taken within 14 days of a written examination. The practical examination is internally assessed by the course provider and externally moderated by NEBOSH.

Further details

The full syllabus and further information regarding the practical unit is available in the NEBOSH Guide to the qualification available for purchase via the NEBOSH website (www.nebosh.org.uk).

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