

Energy & Environment-

Distance Education Course



- Certificate in Energy & Environment
- A truly multi-national perspective
- An opportunity to thoroughly master the topic of sustainable energy
- The first Internet based distance education course developed in co-operation with Central European and EU countries
- Study on the Internet at the most appropriate pace relative to your needs

The course will give the students the ability to function in a truly European dimension to create and determine environmentally responsible decision-making and policy planning and to acquire the ability to create environmentally sound business activities.

Participants will have a great opportunity to form a network of professionals capable of successful future co-operation and information exchange.

The course is directed at two groups of users public authorities and small and medium enterprises but it is open to any interested individual who feels the need to broaden their knowledge in the field of sustainable energy.



Minimum Registration Period

The registration period is the same for all students of the course 6 months, commencing in December 1998 and ending in June 1999.

Locations

Students may pursue the course from any place best suited to their needs their home, place of work, university or affiliated study centres of the Consortium all over Slovakia, Poland, Austria and Greece.

Programme

The course is divided into three individual modules. Module 1: Introduction to Environmental and Energy issues including the subjects Introduction to Ecology, Overview of Environmental Issues, Environmental and Energy Economics, Environmental and Energy Related Law and Legislation and the EMAS Standardisation System. Module 2: Energy Resources deals with the topics of Overview of World Energy Picture, Fossil Fuels and Nuclear Power, Renewable Fuels and Energy Conservation. Module 3: Sectoral Energy Situation provides detailed knowledge of issues such as Energy and Industry, Energy and the Residential and Commercial Sector and Energy and Transportation.

All three course modules run primarily on the Internet. Alternative methods of course material distribution are via e-mail, on CD-ROMs and floppy discs. Users who do not have access to the Internet or wish to use the facilities of the Consortiums Distance Education Centres developed under the project

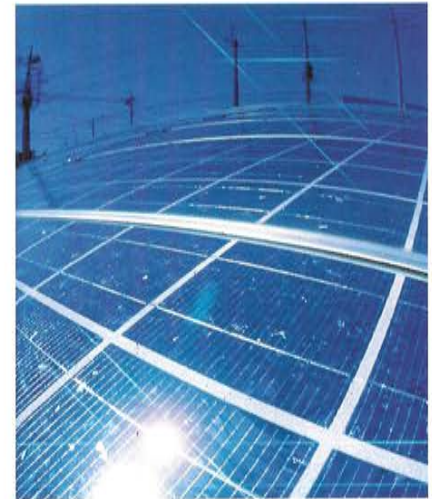


and/or Phare Centres of Distance Education are encouraged to do so. The Consortiums Distance Education Centres are also able to provide professional assistance to the course users. Each of the modules is completed by a written examination and an assignment. Both examination questions and assignment topics are distributed over the Internet or in the same alternative method as the course material. The users of the course may answer the examination questions and work out their assignments from the location of their course access. The final, oral examination is of a different nature. The course users are requested to undertake this examination personally at the premises of the Consortiums Distance Education Centres. Graduates of the course will receive a European certificate confirming their successful graduation.

Distribution of the Course Material, Access to Multimedia Equipped Computers and the Internet

The course material is distributed primarily via the Internet with opportunities for distribution also via e-mail, CD-ROM or floppy disc.

All the students of the course have optional, additional access to multimedia equipped computers and the Internet at the Consortiums Distance Education Centres in Slovakia, Poland, Austria and Greece as well as the co-operating Phare Centres of Distance Education. Each of the students are given an individual e-mail address, login account and adequate space on the course server.



Professional assistance

Professional assistance to the course users is available in several different forms. Prior to the course commencement, the students will receive a guidebook How to Study. The guidebook contains a clear explanation of all the aspects of the course, i.e. how to access the course material, how to use it, the schedule for all three modules, the schedule for examination and assignment deadlines, instructions on how to answer examinations questions, how to work on assignment topics, etc. Apart from this technical information, the guidebook also gives a clear explanation to the student on how to access the Consortiums Distance Education Centres for assistance, addresses of these centres, addresses of the course writers, when and how these can be contacted, etc. The Consortiums Distance Education Centres are the prime locations for the provision of assistance and staff will be available for the duration of the course. Regarding the course content,



the course users can always contact the staff employed by the Consortiums Distance Education Centres who will either provide them with answers or arrange consultation with course writers. Obviously, the Consortiums Distance Education Centres also provide technical assistance in the use of computers and the course material. Students are able to contact the staff via whichever method is most convenient: e-mail, phone, fax or in person.

Apart from assistance provided by the Consortiums Distance Education Centres staff or the course material writers directly, the students also have an opportunity to contribute to the mailing lists and participate in newsgroup discussions. In addition, all students queries are posted on the list of frequently asked questions.

Student Assessment Methods

Methods of student assessment are based on the completion of assignments and written and oral examinations.

The assignments are in the form of tasks given to the students of the course during each module. Their aim is to develop the practical skills of students. Each student is required to complete his/her assignment and submit it at the end of a particular module.

Written examinations consist of long- and short-answer tests. Short-answer tests, as the name implies, contain questions for which only short answers will be required. This kind of test focuses on the understanding of basic definitions, principles and concepts by the learner. Long-answer tests contain fewer questions which require conceptual understanding and they need instead an analytical approach on the part of the user.

Short- and long-answer tests comprise so-called Self-examinations. These are written tests distributed over the Internet during a specific time (at the end of each module). Each learner is required to complete them within a given deadline and return them to the Consortium. Their distribution and collection is organised via the Internet (with the opportunity of alternative distribution and collection for students who require it). The examinations are scheduled to take place during the last week of each module.

The Final Examination is the only examination requiring the personal participation of each student. It takes place at the very end of the course, after all the modules and Self-examinations have been completed. The Final Examination consists of a short test and an oral examination, both covering all the subjects. The students have a choice of place and time for taking the Final Examination.

Registration Requirements

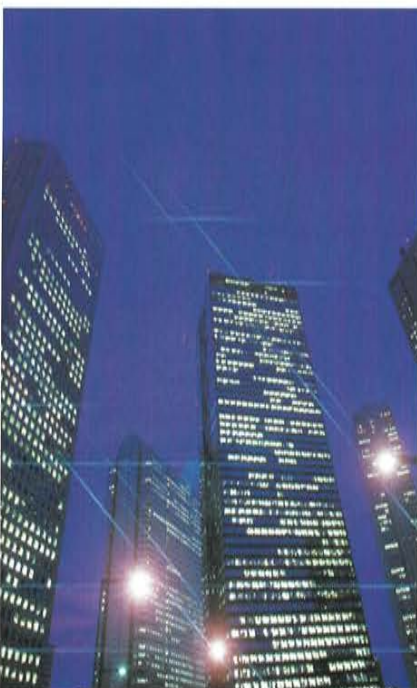
Applicants must hold a Bachelor degree or higher at the time of the commencement on the course. Applicants with strong subject-specific experience (at least 5 years) but without a university degree may also apply.

Career Opportunities

The graduates of the course have excellent prospects in receiving jobs in: research institutes; engineering consultancies; renewable energy product manufacturers; public administration and the energy management departments of a number of companies.

Contact

If you are interested, please contact the person assigned for your country. If your country is not listed, please contact Mr. Radoslav Vician, Academia Istropolitana Nova
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Academia Istropolitana Nova

A new, independent institution established by an ambitious group of specialists who are building on their substantial experience in creating and managing dynamic educational courses. The mission of the institute is to provide liberal post-graduate education and research in a variety of fields relating to the special needs of Slovakia and other Central and East European countries. Academia Istropolitana Nova offers dynamic education programmes with professional orientation to meet the challenge resulting from ongoing efforts to establish democratic politics and market economies based on private property rights and freedom of contact.

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Polish Operational and Systems Research Society

A learned society active for 12 years, with some 200 members from universities, research institutes and administration and business communities across Poland. Its objectives include research promotion, dissemination of knowledge and education in the domain of formal, mathematical and computer methods used in such fields as economics, the environment, technology, etc. The Society organises annual meetings with foreign participants and it is involved in international research projects and the publishing of books.

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Centre of Architecture, Construction and Environment

The Danube University of Krems is Austria's first and only postgraduate university. The Danube University is exploring new paths. Its objectives, curriculum, and organisation are inspired by innovation. The Centre of Architecture, Construction and Environment is situated within the Department of Environmental and Medical Sciences. The objectives of the Centre are research, teaching and consultation mainly in the area of health inducing and ecological buildings. As part of meeting this challenge, a postgraduate program for solar architecture has been successfully run since 1996. Our research transcends the frontiers between theory and practice and follows an interdisciplinary approach in terms of form, content, and method.

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UETP Action Link/Action Synergy SA

A member of the European Action Group which consists of 14 independent companies all over Europe. Since 1987 UETP Action Link has organised and managed transnational educational and training programmes within the framework of the Community programmes

of the Community programmes COMETT, FORCE, TEMPUS, PETRA, SOCRATES, LEONARDO DA VINCI and ADAPT. UETP Action Link has developed a trans-national network involving 200 partners and its main activities are as follows:

- Educational needs analysis
- Development of educational material making use of innovative methods (Open/Flexible & Distance Learning)
- Organisation of periods of practical training for students, working people and University staff
- Organisation of seminars and courses for adults
- Dissemination of information and products

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Local Centre of Distance Education

The Local Centre of Distance Education at the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava was established under the PHARE project Multi Country Co-operation in Distance Education on May 1st, 1996. In co-operation with several home and European institutions, it is promoting the development of flexible learning provision in the region of Western Slovakia, including the development and delivery of different distance education courses.

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