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## Associate Certificate in Environmental Management by Applied Learning (AIEMA)

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**Course length:** Time period to suit participant (12 months support is included which can be extended for an additional fee) – anticipate 90 hours study

**Additional work:** None

**Level:** Advanced

**Delivery:** Distance learning 12 months Support included

**Venues:** Your home or workplace

**Pre-Qualifications:** None

**Examinations:** e-Portfolio Based assessment – NO EXAMS

**Next step qualification:** Pathway to MIEMA



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### Overview

This advanced level course has been developed to support individuals who wish to become an environmental professional, and gain professional membership of IEMA. Associate membership of IEMA (AIEMA) is the first professional level. It is widely recognised as the minimum professional achievement for anyone working in an environment or sustainability role.

The course consists 6 units based on 90 hours Learning:

- Global Environmental Issues
- Environmental Law
- Environmental Techniques
- Environmental Management Systems
- Environmental Communications
- Sustainability

Our unique applied learning approach focuses on your application of core environmental knowledge to your own organisation. It is designed to appeal to those with a practical learning style, based on the concept of 'learning by doing'.

One-to-one mentored learning means that participants can start this course at any time.

### Target Audience

The course is designed for individuals with environmental responsibilities as part of their role, or who are interested in entering the sector.

### Assessment Process

The course is made up of six units each requiring a management report and submission of work evidence to demonstrate that competence has been achieved. This is e-Portfolio Based assessment – there are no exams.

Participants are required to complete an environmental review of their organisation detailing how it interacts with the earth's natural systems and how the environmental footprint adversely affects air, water land and people, habitats and species, detailing implications to businesses and the environment.

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The Course consist of 6 units:

### Global Environmental Issues

The aim of this unit is for participants to demonstrate an underpinning knowledge of the earth's natural systems and how human activity interacts and impacts on these systems.

Participants will research the underpinning knowledge of how human activity interacts with ecological systems e.g. carbon, nitrogen and water cycles, and the effects of these interactions on global and local scales. They will also demonstrate that they are able to identify the principal sources of pollutants, and the associated impact on the environment.

### Environmental Law

The aim of this unit is for participants to demonstrate an understanding of the main sources of environmental laws affecting businesses.

Participants will complete a review of their organisation against current legal requirements detailing how the current framework applies. The review will consider controls to the atmosphere, management of waste, water discharges, and contaminated land, nuisance and producer responsibilities. They will also highlight forthcoming legislation to demonstrate their knowledge of the sources of environmental laws. Where legislation does not apply to their workplace, participants will demonstrate their competence by explaining why it is not relevant to their organisation.

### Environmental Techniques

The aim of this unit is for participants to demonstrate competence in the principal tools used by the environmental professional, including life cycle assessment, aspect review, environmental impact assessment (EIA), environmental risk assessment and auditing.

Participants will complete a basic environmental assessment of their own organisation using techniques including life cycle analysis, environmental risk assessment, environmental aspect review, or auditing to demonstrate an appropriate level of understanding of EIA. Whilst it is preferable for participants to use these techniques in their normal place of work, they may do so at an organisation with which they are familiar in order to demonstrate their competence (subject to approval by their tutor). Within the requirements of the environmental audit, this could be against legal, best practice or EMS Standards.

In order to demonstrate their understanding of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), participants must show referenced evidence of researching an EIA project and detail the nature of the project, impacts identified, stages completed and mitigation recommended.

### Environmental Management Systems

The aim of this unit is for participants to demonstrate understanding of the benefits of developing and implementing an environmental management system (EMS) to deliver environmental performance improvement in a business context.

Participants will review the business risks that environmental pressures place on their organisation and the opportunities that this could represent. They will complete an EMS review of their organisation against the requirements of an accredited environmental management system standard, such as ISO 14001. Participants will also produce evidence of being able to develop a business case for an environmental project for their organisation.

### Environmental Communications

The aim of this unit is for participants to demonstrate understanding of the importance of internal and external environmental communication.

Participants will complete a stakeholder analysis and communication review for their organisation, and include the identification of stakeholders. They will review the company's current environmental communication plans, and the benefits and difficulties of setting environmental performance indicators. Participants will produce a report on their company's environmental performance.

### Sustainability

The aim of this unit is for participants to demonstrate understanding of the issues, science and philosophy that underpin environmental sustainability.

Participants will complete a sustainability report / environmental improvement plan for their organisation over the next thirty years. The improvement plan should highlight how their organisation could become more sustainable over the longer term and the business benefits achievable by taking such steps. The report will include resource management including materials elimination or substitution, recycling, carbon management, waste reduction, the efficient use of energy and the role of renewable energy as well as the need to comply with future legislation. This includes applying the precautionary principle, product stewardship, polluter pays, and best available techniques. The report will also consider the organisational, financial and culture barriers that will need to be overcome in order for the plan to become successful.

**Additional Notes:** The participant's first year IEMA fees are included in the course fee.