

Nondestructive Examination Technology

The Nondestructive Examination (NDE) Technology curriculum prepares students for careers in non-destructive testing of materials, equipment and/or components. NDE test methods assess an object's integrity without affecting its function. NDE is used in many industries, including construction, petrochemical, pulp and paper, power generation and aerospace.

Coursework includes ultrasonics, radiography, liquid penetrant, visual, magnetic particle and eddy current examination. Students gain knowledge of these methods through applied theory and hands-on applications.

The NDE curriculum meets classroom and laboratory training requirements of Recommended Practice No. SNT-TC-1A of the American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT), permitting graduates the opportunity to obtain method-specific NDE certification after a few months of on-the-job experience with their employers. Career opportunities exist in applied NDE, material sciences, technical sales and quality control in many industries.

Many of the courses are offered through a Fast Track program (any semester course offered in less than a 16 week semester). When creating a class schedule, pay particular attention to the start/end dates and times of the courses.

For specific information about potential positions and wages in NDE employment, visit the Central Piedmont Career Coach website.

NDE 110. Intro to Nondestructive Examination. 3.0 Credits. Class-3.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces Nondestructive Examination (NDE) and its benefits, and provides a survey of the basic NDE methods and their limitations and advantages. Topics include terms and definitions associated with NDE, the basic approach to the nondestructive form of testing, and examples of industrial applications. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the major NDE methods and their applications.

NDE 111. NDE Codes and Specifications. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course is designed to instruct the student in the correct reading and interpretation of industrial codes and procedures that are common to the nondestructive examination industry. Topics include American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), American Welding Society (AWS), Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) codes and various industry procedures to familiarize the student with wording, structure, and meaning of governing documents that must be followed. Upon completion, students should be able to find relevant sections of the code pertaining to the job, correctly interpret information given, differentiate between required and nonmandatory variables, and apply the information to their job assignment.

NDE 121. Principles of Ultrasonic Examination-UT Level I. 4.0 Credits. Class-3.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces the student to basic principles associated with ultrasound and provides the initial elements of ASNT's SNT-TC-1A Level I, requirements for UT practitioners. Topics include sound wave modes and sound theory, and display modes are discussed and demonstrated through lab applications. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of ultrasonics, select proper equipment, and set-up an instrument for straight beam examinations. Prerequisites: Take one from each set: Set 1: NDE 110; Set 2: MAT 121, MAT 171, MAT 172, or MAT 271

Corequisites: Take 1 group: Take PHY 110 PHY 110A; Take PHY 121 PHY 122 PHY 131 PHY 132 PHY 133 or PHY 151

NDE 122. Angle Beam Examination. 4.0 Credits. Class-3.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces the student to the principles associated with transverse wave examination. Topics include shear wave discontinuity location, effects of shear waves in various materials, and inspection of components. Upon completion, students should be able to select and calibrate transverse wave equipment and the equipment for shear wave inspection, using inspection procedures.

Prerequisites: Take NDE 121

NDE 131. Radiation Safety and Principles of Radiographic Testing. 4.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-4.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces basics principles of radiation safety, and the limitations and advantages of the radiographic testing (RT) method. Emphasis is placed on radiation safety, interaction of radiation with matter, radiation monitoring, radiographic physics, radiographic technique, and basic RT equipment. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of radiation safety and the operating principles of RT.

Prerequisites: Take all: NDE 110 and MAT 121

Corequisites: Take PHY 131 or PHY 151 or PHY 110 and PHY 110A

NDE 132. RT Industrial Applications. 3.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course covers advanced radiographic applications and the ASNT SNT-TC-1A Level II qualification program. Emphasis is placed on darkroom processing, image quality, geometric issues, and exposure calculations. Upon completion, the student should be able to select a proper radiographic technique and film to perform acceptable radiography to specific codes and standards.

Prerequisites: Take NDE 131

NDE 142. Visual Testing-1,2. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course describes the principles, limitations, and advantages of non-destructive examination (NDE) visual testing as it's applied to industrial components such as pipes, pumps, valves, hangers and supports. Emphasis is placed on visual testing techniques including the use of visual aids and measuring gages. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of NDE visual techniques and their applications.

NDE 143. Liquid Penetrant Testing-1,2. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0.
Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course describes the principles, limitations, and advantages of non-destructive examination (NDE) liquid penetrant testing as it's applied to industrial components such as pipes, pumps, valves, hangers and supports. Emphasis is placed on liquid penetrant testing techniques including the use of color contrast solvent removable and water washable penetrant techniques. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of various NDE liquid penetrant techniques and their applications.

NDE 152. Magnetic Particle Testing-1,2. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0.
Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course describes the principles, limitations, and advantages of non-destructive examination (NDE) magnetic particle testing as it's applied to industrial components such as pipes, pumps, valves, hangers and supports. Emphasis is placed on magnetic particle testing techniques including dry and wet fluorescent particle techniques. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of NDE magnetic particle techniques and their applications.

NDE 153. Eddy Current Testing-1. 3.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0.
Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course describes the principles, limitations, and advantages of non-destructive examination (NDE) eddy current testing as it's applied to industrial components such as pipes, pumps, valves, hangers and supports. Emphasis is placed on eddy current testing techniques including the use of different types of eddy current equipment. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of NDE eddy current techniques and their applications.

Prerequisites: Take NDE 110

NDE 210. NDE Procedure Development. 3.0 Credits. Class-2.0.
Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course provides an understanding of codes and procedure qualifications as they relate to various testing methods. Emphasis is placed on writing NDE procedures in accordance with various codes and standards. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of code requirements for procedures and how to write field applicable NDE procedures.

Prerequisites: Take all: NDE 122 and NDE 132

NDE 221. UT Industrial Applications. 4.0 Credits. Class-3.0.
Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course exposes the student to practical application of straight and angle beam techniques on actual component mock-ups and introduces automated equipment. Lab applications provide comprehensive inspection challenges and "blind" samples. Upon completion, students should be able to follow procedures to fully inspect a variety of components to differing code requirements.

Prerequisites: Take NDE 122

NDE 222. Advanced Ultrasonic Testing Including Phased Array. 3.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces the student to principles of flaw detection and sizing using advanced inspection techniques including phased array. Topics include advanced detection, sizing techniques, and inspection criteria using AWS, ASME API and FEMA codes. Upon completion, students should be able to select and apply the proper technique to detect and locate length, size, and depth flaws using manual and automated phased array equipment.

Prerequisites: Take NDE 221

NDE 231. Advance Radiographic Testing Techniques. 3.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course provides an expert-level understanding of radiographic methods. Emphasis is placed on factors affecting image quality, RT techniques for more complex geometric situations, and enhanced film developing techniques. Upon completion, the student should be able to select a radiographic technique and film for complex geometries and enhanced film developing.

Prerequisites: Take NDE 132

NDE 242. Advanced Visual Testing (VT). 3.0 Credits. Class-2.0.
Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course prepares individuals for trainee positions in performing visual examinations of pressure retaining vessels, piping, pumps, and valves for nuclear power electric generating facilities. Topics include fundamentals of visual examination with emphasis on VT-1, VT-2 and VT-3 methods. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of ASME Code visual inspection requirements during various phases of commercial nuclear power operations.

Corequisites: Take NDE 142

NDE 252. Eddy Current Testing (ET). 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0.
Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course provides practical applications of the eddy current testing (ET) method. Topics include generic and specialized applications of ET on industrial mock-ups. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of ET in industrial applications.

Prerequisites: Take NDE 153

NDE 261. Performance Demonstration Initiative -1, Ultrasonic Testing, Carbon Steel Pipe Welds. 7.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0.
Lab-15.0. Work-0.0

This course provides advanced ultrasonic instruction for nondestructive examination of carbon steel (CS) pipe welds. Topics include performance demonstration initiative (PDI), ultrasonic testing (UT), and longitudinal and shear wave examination techniques for carbon steel (CS) piping. Upon completion, students should be able to identify and describe the qualified detection and sizing techniques per PDI-UT-1 procedures.

Prerequisites: Take NDE 221

NDE 262. Performance Demonstration Initiative -2, Ultrasonic Testing, Stainless Steel Pipe Welds. 7.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-15.0. Work-0.0

This course provides advanced ultrasonic instruction for nondestructive examination of stainless steel (SS) pipe welds. Topics include performance demonstration initiative (PDI), ultrasonic testing (UT), and longitudinal and shear wave examination techniques for stainless steel piping. Upon completion, students should be able to identify and describe the qualified detection and sizing techniques per PDI-UT-2 procedures. Prerequisites: Take NDE 221

NDE 263. Perf Demonstration Initiative -3, Ultrasonic Testing, Thru Wall Sizing, Carbon Steel/Stainless Steel. 3.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0

This course provides advanced ultrasonic instruction for NDE through wall sizing (TWS) in carbon steel (CS) and stainless steel (SS) pipe welds. Topics include performance demonstration initiative (PDI), ultrasonic testing (UT), and longitudinal and shear wave examination techniques for through wall sizing. Upon completion, students should be able to identify and describe the qualified TWS techniques per PDI-UT-3 procedures. Prerequisites: Take NDE 221

NDE 264. Perf Demonstration Initiative -8, Ultrasonic Testing, Weld Overlay and Dissimilar Metal Thru Wall Sizing. 3.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0

This course provides advanced ultrasonic instruction for NDE of weld overlay (WOL) and dissimilar metal (DM) welds. Topics include performance demonstration initiative (PDI), ultrasonic testing (UT), and longitudinal and shear wave examination techniques for through wall sizing (TWS) of welds. Upon completion, students should be able to identify and describe the qualified TWS techniques per PDI-UT-8 procedures. Prerequisites: Take NDE 221

NDE 265. Performance Demonstration Initiative -10 Ultrasonic Testing, Dissimilar Metal Detection and Length Sizing. 3.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0

This course provides advance ultrasonic instruction for NDE of dissimilar metal (DM) welds for detection and length sizing. Topics include performance demonstration initiative (PDI), ultrasonic testing (UT), and longitudinal and shear wave examination techniques for detection and length sizing (DLS) of DM welds. Upon completion, students should be able to identify and describe the qualified DLS techniques per PDI-UT-10 procedures. Prerequisites: Take NDE 221