

# NTEC MSc in Nuclear Science and Technology

Dr Stuart Christie NTEC Course Tutor







- Nuclear Technology Education Consortium
- 7 Universities and Educational Institutes working together to offer course units
- 16 course units, expanding to 19 in academic year 2024/25
- "Short-fat" module delivery
- Part-time or full-time study
- Postgraduate Certificate, Diploma or Masters Degree
- For full-time students we pay for you to attend course units which are held at the other Universities. You travel by train on the Sunday, stay in a hotel for 5 nights and there is a food allowance while you are there.





# North of England



- Uranium conversion and fuel manufacturing in Springfields, Preston
- Uranium enrichment at Capenhurst, Chester
- Nuclear reactors at Heysham, Lancaster
- Reprocessing and waste
  Management at Sellafield, Cumbria
- Geological disposal facility in Cumbria?



### **Example Marking for Each Unit**

- Pre-course work 10%
- Post-course assignment 50%
- Exam 40%

or

- Pre-course work 10%
- Post-course assignment 90%

#### or

- Post-course assignment 50%
- Exam 50%





# NTEC unit list - Core and options

- Reactor Physics, Criticality & Design
- Nuclear Fuel Cycle
- Radiation & Radiological Protection
- Decommissioning, Radioactive Waste & Environmental Management
- Reactor Materials & Lifetime Behaviour
- Nuclear Safety Case Development
- Particle Engineering in the Nuclear
  Industry
- Policy, Regulation & Licensing
- Processing, Storage & Disposal of Nuclear Waste
- Radiation Shielding

- Reactor Thermal Hydraulics
- Criticality Safety Management
- Severe Accidents
- Chemical Aspects of Nuclear Technology
- Tritium & the Fusion Fuel Cycle
- Control and Instrumentation and Functional Safety
- Primary Circuit Materials and Manufacturing
- Management of the Decommissioning Process
- Experimental Reactor Physics



- Course and unit schedules available at <u>https://www.ntec.ac.uk/taught-programme/</u>
- Monday usually 9 am start at delivering partner's institution unless otherwise stated
- Mixture of lectures, group exercises, presentation, lab work. Written course material is provided.
- Unit review after unit assessments



- Course units designed in partnership with industry
- External Advisory Board
- Industry location for projects
- Short-fat delivery optimized for industry
- Industry lecturers support the programme
- Industry recruitment of NTEC students is the real test







300 full time students;

- 191 Nuclear employment
- 52 Nuclear-related research
- 25 Non-nuclear employment
- 32 Unknown/Did not respond

https://www.ntec.ac.uk/student-destinations/

- Nuclear employment
  Nuclear-related research
- Non-nuclear employment Unknown/Did not respond



# **NTEC unit summaries**



# **Reactor Physics, Criticality & Design**

- Reactor designs in the UK and worldwide
- Reactor accidents
- Reactor physics and criticality
- Time behaviour of the chain reaction
- Radiation transport



High Flux Reactor, World Nuclear News





Uranium enrichment cascade, JNFL

- Mining and milling
- Enrichment
- Conversion
- Reprocessing
- Waste management



# Radiation & Radiological Protection (Core)

- Nuclear and radiation physics
- Interaction of radiation with matter
- Radiation detection
- Biological effects of radiation
- Radiation safety



Alpha particle cloud chamber tracks, Institute of Physics



# Decommissioning, Radioactive Waste and Environmental Management



Windscale pile filter decommissioning, Nuclear Engineering International

- Decommissioning of nuclear facilities
- Site remediation
- Policy, governance and sociopolitical issues
- Environmental safety cases
- Sustainable decommissioning



# **Reactor Materials & Lifetime Behaviour**

- Materials science
- Corrosion
- Irradiation effects
- Structural integrity
- Nuclear materials
- Non-destructive evaluation



Nuclear fuel assembly, RIA Novosti

### **Nuclear Safety Case Development**





Nuclear Safety Procedures, The Simpsons

- Purpose and scope of a nuclear safety case
- Nuclear safety justification
  principles
- Engineering substantiation
- Deterministic safety
  justification
- Probabilistic safety analysis

# Particle Engineering in the Nuclear Industry

- Particle technology and the nuclear fuel cycle
- Suspension rheology and slurry flow
- Colloid science

Educating the nuclear workforce since 200.

- Legacy waste retrieval and storage
- Particle science for nuclear fuel manufacturing



Yellowcake, Kazatomprom

# Policy, Regulation & Licensing



UK Parliamentary Group Nuclear Roadmap, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Nuclear Energy

- Legal systems and nuclear law
- Regulatory framework
- Nuclear licensing
- Environmental permitting
- Radioactive waste policy



# **Processing, Storage & Disposal of Nuclear Waste (Core)**

- Sources of radioactive waste
- Nuclear waste regulation
- Radioactive waste disposal materials and technologies
- Waste disposal concepts
- Geological repositories



High-level waste store at Sellafield, BBC



# Radiation shielding (Core)



44 tonne door for neutron source shielding, Energy.gov

- Particle transport
- Principles of radiological protection
- Shielding methods
- Monte Carlo and deterministic modelling
- Radiation shielding design



# **Reactor thermal hydraulics**

- Heat transfer in fuel elements
- Heat transfer by convection
  and boiling
- Hydraulics of reactor fuels and systems
- Thermal hydraulic design
- Steam and gas power cycles



Nuclear fuel assembly surface temperature model, Oak Ridge National Laboratory



# **Criticality safety management**



Criticality safety experiment, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

- Physics of nuclear criticality
- Methods of criticality control
- Criticality accidents
- Criticality calculations
- Criticality safety assessment



- Nuclear safety principles
- History of severe accidents
- Accident processes
- Nuclear regulations
- Radiological, societal and environmental consequences



Chornobyl, S. Christie

# **Chemical aspects of nuclear technology**



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Shielded cells with remote manipulators, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

- Chemical and physical principles
- Nuclear fuel cycle chemistry
- Environmental radiochemistry
- Reactor coolant chemistry
- Analytical and forensic radiochemistry



# **Tritium & the Fusion Fuel Cycle**

- Introduction to nuclear fusion
- Fuel storage and supply
- Isotope separation
- Tritium removal from water and waste forms
- Personal and environmental protection



JET: The Joint European Torus, CCFE



# **Control and Instrumentation and Functional Safety**



Reactor control panel, IAEA

- Control and instrumentation (C&I) for nuclear facilities
- Design, verification and validation of C&I
- Safety justification and assessment
- Benefits and challenges of different approaches to C&I

# **Primary Circuit Materials and Manufacturing**

- Welding processes used in nuclear manufacturing
- Welding metallurgy

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- Residual stresses and distortion
- Near-net shape manufacturing
- Quality assurance, inspection, codes and standards
- Trends in manufacturing
  practice



Hinkley Point C reactor pressure vessel, EDF



# Management of the Decommissioning Process



Robots used for decommissioning at Sellafield, Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

- Policy and business objectives of decommissioning
- Hazard reduction and risk
  management
- Project planning processes
- Nuclear safety culture
- Waste classification and characterisation



# **Experimental reactor physics**

- Neutron detection and measurement
- Reactivity measurements
- Control rod calibration
- Reactor behaviour and response
- Nuclear reactor operation



NTEC student operating TRIGA reactor in Vienna, NTEC



- Summer(FT)/3<sup>rd</sup> year(PT) project working on a specific nuclear science and technology topic
- Industry and university based projects
  - Alternative waste encapsulation technologies
  - Application of machine learning to nuclear fuel studies
  - Space applications of nuclear technology
  - Neutronic analysis of nuclear reactor designs
  - Proton beam therapy modelling
  - Analysis of UK nuclear safeguards



# What would you like to discuss?

