# Environmental Toxicology

NB1722 English course information

## GENERAL

Official source section General

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| **Official title** | Environmental Toxicology |
| **Course code** | NB1722 |
| **Study area** | Natural Sciences |
| **Credits** | 5 EC |
| **Indicative price** | From EUR 410 |

### Course schedule

This course has a fixed start date. Consult the annual timetable to see when the course begins.

### Course content

Living organisms, including people, are exposed to an increasing number and variety of harmful substances. Exposure can sometimes have disastrous effects, but lower doses over a longer period are much more common, and their consequences may emerge only much later. Environmental toxicology covers the study and risk assessment of harmful chemicals in the environment, how they enter organisms, their effects from the molecular to the population level, and the protective mechanisms they trigger.

This English-language course focuses on the behaviour of chemicals in the environment and their adverse effects on ecosystems, including humans. It covers the processes that determine exposure and those that determine toxic effects on an organism and an ecosystem. The course also introduces environmental epidemiology, the study of the occurrence and distribution of environmentally related diseases and the factors that determine them.

### Learning objective

You acquire knowledge of the basic principles of environmental toxicology, including human toxicology, epidemiology, and risk analysis.

## SIGNING UP

Official source section Signing Up

### Eligibility

Anyone may register.

### Registration information

The course starts on 26 April 2027. OU recommends registering by Sunday 11 April 2027 so that course materials and access to the online learning environment arrive on time and, where applicable, you can be assigned to a study group. OU cannot guarantee this for registrations submitted after 11 April. Registration remains open through 25 April 2027.

This course revises the former course N42112 Organisms in Their Environment Toxicology and Defence Systems. It is expressly not intended for students who have already completed that earlier course.

### Prior knowledge

For the toxicological processes covered in this course, first-year bachelor-level knowledge of chemistry and biology is strongly recommended, together with some mathematics. You also need sufficient reading knowledge of English to understand the English-language materials.

## GUIDANCE

Official source section  Guidance

### Guidance format

This course has a fixed start date. Through the course page in the online learning environment, you can ask the lecturer questions about the subject matter. The lecturer organises a guided study programme in quarter 4 for all registered students. You may also study independently, provided you observe the registration deadline for this fixed-start course.

The guided programme includes one in-person meeting during a themed study day and two online guidance sessions. You can attend the online sessions through the course page in the online learning environment.

### Teaching staff

Dr Frank Van Belleghem, examiner; Dr Esmée Bijnens, examiner; and Dr Ir Lily Fredrix.

## EXAM

Official source section  Exam

### Assessment method

Assignment.

### Assessment dates

By arrangement.

# MORE INFO

Official source section  More Info

### Course materials

Environmental Toxicology is delivered entirely through the online learning environment. It uses a carefully selected and edited collection of chapters from an English-language open online textbook developed by experts from seven Dutch universities.

### Online learning environment

The course page provides access to discussion groups where you can exchange information and discuss the material with other students and tutors.