



PTRT 2170 - Natural Gas Production 401 Course Syllabus

Description

An overview of the aspects of natural gas and oil production including various aspects of hydrocarbon production, processing equipment, and gas compression/ transportation systems.

Credits 1

Lecture Hours 0

Lab Hours 3

Extended Hours 0

Contact Hours 48

State Approval Code 15.0903

Instructor Name David West

Semester/Year Fall 2025

Meeting Time and Location

Online—students are expected to spend at least 3-4 hours per week** reading, reviewing, and participating in assigned activities for successful completion of this course.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Panola College to move to altered operations. During this time, Panola College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to: online learning management system (CANVAS), online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor Panola College's website (www.panola.edu) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, CANVAS for each class for course-specific communication, and Panola College email for important general information.

Student Basic Needs

Unexpected circumstances may arise, but Panola College offers various resources to support students. If you need mental health services or are facing challenges with transportation, affording class materials and supplies, or accessing food regularly—issues that may impact your class performance—please visit panola.edu/resources.

Class Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance of classes and laboratories is required of all students. When a student has been ill or absent from class for approved extracurricular activities, he or she should be allowed, as far as possible, to make up for the missed work. If a student has not actively participated by the census date, they will be dropped by the instructor for non-attendance. This policy applies to courses that are in-person, online, hybrid, and hyflex.

Attendance in online courses is determined by submission of an assignment or participation in an activity. According to federal guidelines, simply logging into a distance learning course without participating in an academic assignment does not constitute attendance. Distance learning is defined as when a majority (more than 50%) of instruction occurs when the instructor and students are in separate physical locations. Students must engage in an academic activity prior to the course census date.

When an instructor feels that a student has been absent to such a degree as to invalidate the learning experience, the instructor may recommend to the Vice President of Instruction that the student be withdrawn from the course. Instructors may seek to withdraw students for non-attendance after they have accumulated the following number of absences:

Fall or spring semesters:

3 or more class meeting times per week - 5 absences

2 class meeting times per week - 3 absences

1 class meeting per week - 2 absences

The student is responsible for seeing that he or she has been officially withdrawn from a class. A student who stops attendance in a class without officially withdrawing from that class will be given a failing grade; consequently, the student must follow official withdrawal procedures in the Admissions/Records Office.

Please note: Health Science and Cosmetology courses may require more stringent attendance policies based on their accreditation agencies. Please see the addendum and/or program handbook for further information concerning attendance.

Pregnant/Parenting Policy

Panola College welcomes pregnant and parenting students as a part of the student body. This institution is committed to providing support and adaptations for a successful educational experience for pregnant and parenting students. Students experiencing a need for accommodations related to pregnancy or parenting will find a Pregnancy and Parenting Accommodations Request form in the Student Handbook or may request the form from the course instructor.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Course Policy

Use of generated AI Permitted under some classroom circumstances with permission.

There are situations throughout the course where you may be asked to use artificial intelligence (AI) tools to explore how they can be used. Outside of those circumstances, you should not use AI tools to generate content that will end up in any student work (assignments, activities, discussion responses, etc.). In such cases for Option #2, no more than 25% of the student work should be generated by AI. Use of any AI-generated content in this course without the instructor's consent qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Panola College's standards of academic integrity.

Instructional Goals and Purposes

The purpose of this course is to teach students the major sectors of the Natural Gas Industry with a focus on production. The focus of this class is to understand the process of how Natural Gas is extracted from the Reservoir and distributed into a Pipe Line System. We will discuss and learn the primary components during the process of extracting natural gas.

Learning Outcomes

Describe the process of how the gas is extracted from the reservoir and distributed to a Pipeline System; and identify the basic components of field processing equipment and how each component operates.

1. Understand natural gas production and the role it plays in the industry. An overview of the Drilling and Completions duties.
2. Identify a Wellhead and Christmas Tree. (Valves, Gauges, Chokes) Explain it's job relation to the process.
3. Identify the surface equipment that may be on a Natural Gas Location and how it operates. (Separators, DeHy's, Ultra Fab Units, Coolers, Meter Runs, Line Heaters, Flares, Tanks have Flow Lines, Tanks)
4. Identify the Safety Systems that may be used to control measures that are unsafe. Explain its job in relation to the industry.
5. The Students will be able to identify why well testing is needed and how the data gives us an analysis of how the well is performing.
6. Understand the different Artificial Lift Methods by which the industry may use to extract the Natural Gas from the ground. (Plungers, Pumping Units, ESPs, Intermitters, Compressors, Gas Lift, Capillary Strings, Chemical Treating, Soap Sticks)

7. The Students will be able analyze a well and understand the flow process of a producing well and explain how each piece of equipment operates. They will also be able to make recommendations for wells underperforming to maximize the potential production for the company they may partner with someday.

Specific Course Objectives (includes SCANS)

After studying all materials and resources presented in the course, the student will be able to:

1. **What is Natural Gas Production? Review of the Drilling and Completions process** (SCANS 1ci, 1civ, 2ai, 2aiii, 2ci, 2cii, 2ciii)
2. **Identify the Wellhead and Christmas Tree.** (SCANS 1ci, 1civ, 2ai, 2aiii, 2ci, 2cii, 2ciii)
3. **Understand the process of the most common uses of equipment that is at use in the industry today.** (SCANS 1ci, 1civ, 2ai, 2aiii, 2ci, 2cii, 2ciii)
4. **Explain the Safety Systems and they operate.** (SCANS 1ci, 1civ, 2ai, 2aiii, 2ci, 2cii, 2ciii)
5. **Identify why well testing is implemented and the benefits/requirements that it gives Production Companies.**(SCANS 1ci, 1civ, 2ai, 2aiii, 2ci, 2cii, 2ciii)
6. **Understand the Secondary Recovery Systems that are used to to deliquify wells with loading issues.** (SCANS 1ci, 1civ, 2ai, 2aiii, 2ci, 2cii, 2ciii)
7. **Develop skills for analyzing data to make strategic recommendations based on key variables to allow the well to produce at its maximum potential while keeping the well safe and economical.**(SCANS 1ci, 1civ, 2ai, 2aiii, 2ci, 2cii, 2ciii)

Course Content

Students in all sections of this course will be required to do the following:

1. Students will study assigned materials and complete quizzes and exams to assess understanding and comprehension.
2. Students, since we do not have a textbook, will need to watch every video in each module before taking the quiz to comprehend the lesson.

Methods of Instruction/Course Format/Delivery

Students in traditional, hybrid and Internet classes will have access to courses via Canvas. Students in the traditional class will meet regularly for lectures. Students in the Internet class will be required to take quizzes and exams at an approved testing facility or, they may also be administered by the instructor. Students in hybrid classes will have both in class and online assignments. Resources for this course have provided through Canvas, include the following Sections in Canvas...

- Modules: Chapter study materials, video, self-assessment exercises, quizzes and exams
- Announcements and Recent Activities List: Instructor Announcements
- Inbox: Email (to communicate with instructor and classmates inside Canvas)
- Grades: Student grades
- Other sections, as assigned by the Instructor: Students in both the traditional and Internet classes should use the People feature within Canvas (includes Canvas Email) to communicate with the instructor. Using Canvas Email located in the "In Box" menu, gives the student access to the instructor and other classmates without having to remember or type email addresses; the student just selects a name from the list. The instructor will attempt to respond to all Canvas emails within 24 hours. For example, if a student makes an appointment with the instructor through Canvas email to take an exam, the instructor will reply to the student's Canvas email – if the instructor does not reply within the time needed, call the instructor at his or her office. Please, always include in the subject line of the Canvas email, the student's name have course number and course section number.

Major Assignments/Assessments

The following items are assigned and assessed during the semester and used to calculate the student's final grade.

Course Grade

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

Category Percentage:

Quizzes and/or Assignments = 60%

Exams = 40%

Other

- Courses conducted via video conferencing may be recorded and shared for instructional purposes by the instructor.
- For current texts and materials, use the following link to access bookstore listings: <https://www.panolacollegestore.com>.
- For testing services, use the following link: <https://www.panola.edu/student-services/student-support/academic-testing-center>.
- The Accommodations & Disability Support (A&DS) Office at Panola College provides and facilitates support services and accommodations for students with disabilities. The A&DS office works under the federal guidelines included in Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act. Please contact the Accommodations & Disability Support (A&DS) Office located in the Charles C. Matthews Student Center or go to <https://www.panola.edu/disabilitysupport> for more information.
- Withdrawing from a course is the student's responsibility. Students who do not attend class and who do not withdraw will receive the grade earned for the course.
- Student Handbook: <https://www.panola.edu/> (located on at the bottom under student)

SCANS Criteria

1. Foundation skills are defined in three areas: basic skills, thinking skills, and personal qualities.
 1. Basic Skills: A worker must read, write, perform arithmetic and mathematical operations, listen, and speak effectively. These skills include:
 1. Reading: locate, understand, and interpret written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules.
 2. Writing: communicate thoughts, ideas, information, and messages in writing, and create documents such as letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, and flow charts.
 3. Arithmetic and Mathematical Operations: perform basic computations and approach practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques.
 4. Listening: receive, attend to, interpret, and respond to verbal messages and other cues.
 5. Speaking: Organize ideas and communicate orally.
 2. Thinking Skills: A worker must think creatively, make decisions, solve problems, visualize, know how to learn, and reason effectively. These skills include:
 1. Creative Thinking: generate new ideas.
 2. Decision Making: specify goals and constraints, generate alternatives, consider risks, and evaluate and choose the best alternative.
 3. Problem Solving: recognize problems and devise and implement plan of action.
 4. Visualize ("Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye"): organize and process symbols, pictures, graphs, objects, and other information.
 5. Knowing How to Learn: use efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills.
 6. Reasoning: discover a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and apply it when solving a problem.
 3. Personal Qualities: A worker must display responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self management, integrity, and honesty.
 1. Responsibility: exert a high level of effort and persevere toward goal attainment.
 2. Self-Esteem: believe in one's own self-worth and maintain a positive view of oneself.
 3. Sociability: demonstrate understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings.
 4. Self-Management: assess oneself accurately, set personal goals, monitor progress, and exhibit self-control.
 5. Integrity and Honesty: choose ethical courses of action.
2. Workplace competencies are defined in five areas: resources, interpersonal skills, information, systems, and technology.

1. Resources: A worker must identify, organize, plan, and allocate resources effectively.
 1. Time: select goal-relevant activities, rank them, allocate time, and prepare and follow schedules.
 2. Money: Use or prepare budgets, make forecasts, keep records, and make adjustments to meet objectives.
 3. Material and Facilities: Acquire, store, allocate, and use materials or space efficiently. Examples: construct a decision timeline chart; use computer software to plan a project; prepare a budget; conduct a cost/benefits analysis; design an RFP process; write a job description; develop a staffing plan.
2. Interpersonal Skills: A worker must work with others effectively.
 1. Participate as a Member of a Team: contribute to group effort.
 2. Teach Others New Skills.
 3. Serve Clients/Customers: work to satisfy customer's expectations.
 4. Exercise Leadership: communicate ideas to justify position, persuade and convince others, responsibly challenge existing procedures and policies.
 5. Negotiate: work toward agreements involving exchange of resources, resolve divergent interests.
 6. Work with Diversity: work well with men and women from diverse backgrounds. Examples: collaborate with a group member to solve a problem; work through a group conflict situation, train a colleague; deal with a dissatisfied customer in person; select and use appropriate leadership styles; use effective delegation techniques; conduct an individual or team negotiation; demonstrate an understanding of how people from different cultural backgrounds might behave in various situations.
3. Information: A worker must be able to acquire and use information.
 1. Acquire and Evaluate Information.
 2. Organize and Maintain Information.
 3. Interpret and Communicate Information.
 4. Use Computers to Process Information. Examples: research and collect data from various sources; develop a form to collect data; develop an inventory record-keeping system; produce a report using graphics; make an oral presentation using various media; use on-line computer databases to research a report; use a computer spreadsheet to develop a budget.
4. Systems: A worker must understand complex interrelationships.
 1. Understand Systems: know how social, organizational, and technological systems work and operate effectively with them.
 2. Monitor and Correct Performance: distinguish trends, predict impacts on system operations, diagnose deviations in systems' performance and correct malfunctions.
 3. Improve or Design Systems: suggest modifications to existing systems and develop new or alternative systems to improve performance. Examples: draw and interpret an organizational chart; develop a monitoring process; choose a situation needing improvement, break it down, examine it, propose an improvement, and implement it.
5. Technology: A worker must be able to work with a variety of technologies.
 1. Select Technology: choose procedures, tools or equipment including computers and related technologies.
 2. Apply Technologies to Task: understand overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment.
 3. Maintain and Troubleshoot Equipment: Prevent, identify, or solve problems with equipment, including computers and other technologies. Examples: read equipment descriptions and technical specifications to select equipment to meet needs; set up and assemble appropriate equipment from instructions; read and follow directions for troubleshooting and repairing equipment.