

What Could a Formulation Curriculum Look Like?

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Formulation Curriculum: Background

- Cogent plans an “Industrial Partnership” to develop skills in the science-based industries
- As a starting point for company engagement iFormulate was asked by Cogent to provide an outline draft curriculum covering Formulation Science and Technology
- This curriculum will be developed further in the Industrial Partnership proposal
- Today is the first opportunity to gain industry feedback
 - Initial draft based on prior knowledge of the area, published information and the Gold Standard consultation
- It's not set in stone and is by no means perfect! So today is a chance for industry to shape the curriculum
 - What's good and what's not so good?
 - What should be added and what could be left out?
 - Have some job functions been neglected?
 - Are there innovative ways of delivering?
 - What about training providers?

Existing Relevant Training and Qualifications

- ☺ There is already a significant body of existing training provision in formulation
- ☺ Often of good quality, long-established and used by industry
- ☹ Sometimes very sector specific (pharma, cosmetics...)
- ☹ Usually not fitting within a structured framework
- ☹ Companies report gaps in provision
- ☹ Sometimes difficult to judge level and suitability
 - e.g. vocational training targeted at chemical using industry but formulation elements are not easily recognisable as such
- ☹ Difficult for companies to plan a pathway for development of individuals
 - e.g. plethora of short courses at professional level – overlap / not co-ordinated
- ☹ Accreditation is patchy
 - Some companies need it, some don't

Examples of existing training and qualifications: Vocational level

Vocational Qualifications

- City & Guilds Certificate in Process Technology Level 2 – University of Teeside
- Level 2 Diploma in Process Technology Chemical Process - Grimsby Institute
- Level 3 Diploma in Process Technology (City and Guilds) – Hull College
- Level 3 Diploma in Operations and Technical Support in the Process Industries
- Applied Chemistry BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma – Halesowen College
- BTEC Level 4 HNC Diploma in Applied Chemistry – South Cheshire College
- BTEC HND/HNC in Applied Chemistry – West Cheshire College
- BTEC Higher National Certificate Applied Chemistry - Wirral Metropolitan College
- Higher National Certificate/Diploma Applied Science (Chemistry) (L5) – Liverpool Community College
- Foundation Degree in Pharmaceutical and Chemical Sciences – FdSc – Kingston University
- Foundation Degree in Pharmaceutical and Chemical Sciences – South Thames College

Examples of existing training and qualifications: Graduate level and above

Graduate and Postgraduate Qualifications

- Diploma in Cosmetic Science by Distance Learning – Society of Cosmetic Scientists
- Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Science BSc – De Montfort University
- M.Sc. in Formulation Science – University of Greenwich
- MChem - Chemistry for Medicines Development – University of Bradford
- MSc Pharmaceutical and BioPharmaceutical Formulations – University of Sunderland
- MSc Pharmaceutical and Analytical Science – University of Huddersfield
- MSc Cosmetic Science – London School of Fashion
- Advanced Chemical Engineering Masters – University of Birmingham
- Eng. D. In Formulation Engineering – University of Birmingham

Training Courses

- Principles of Colloid Science – Formumetrics / Bristol
- eLearning in Formulation Technology – Formumetrics / Bristol
- Fundamentals of Formulation Science and Technology – Leeds
- Chemical Engineering for Scientists – IChemE
- Fundamentals of Process Safety – IChemE
- Particle Technology - IChemE
- Formulating with Surfactants – BACS
- Rheology - BACS
- Granulation Course – University of Sheffield
- Non Aqueous Colloids – University of Leeds
- Particle and Powder Characterisation – University of Leeds
- Rheology of Suspensions/Dispersions – University of Leeds
- Formulation for poorly soluble APIs - Pharmaterials
- Professional Paint Formulation - PRA

The Scope: How Did We Define Formulation?

What is Formulation?

- Design and manufacture of complex formulated product.
- Formulated products are characterised by multiple functional (chemical) ingredients, a complex product microstructure, multiple application properties and defined physical processing steps in manufacture.

What are the Relevant Industries?

- Pharmaceuticals, personal care, cleaners and detergents (industrial and consumer), coatings & adhesives, processed food, agrochemicals, process additives (water, paper, oil, lubricants etc), lubricants etc.

What are the Main Relevant Scientific and Technological Disciplines and Themes?

- Colloid science, physical chemistry, chemical engineering, physical characterisation, rheology, materials science, sustainable chemistry
- Mixing, milling, dispersion, emulsification, granulating, tableting, drying, separation, crystallisation, product stabilisation, process control

From Job Roles to Programme Content



What Job Roles Did We Consider?

Senior/General Management

Functional Management

Formulation Scientist R&D



GS

Senior Formulation Technician



GS

Process Technician Formulation



GS

Process Operative and Supervisor

QA, Technical Service, other Technical

General Staff - non Technical

Overview of Envisaged Programmes

Ref.	Programme	Level
A1 – A3	Formulation Awareness	General
I1-I9	Introduction to Formulation	Vocational
L1-L15	Laboratory Formulation	Vocational
M1-M15	Formulation Manufacturing	Vocational
Q1-Q3	Formulation Quickstart	Graduate and above
S1-S21	Formulation Science and Technology	Graduate and above
F1-Fn	Advanced Formulation	Graduate and above

- Outlines have been drawn up for each of these programmes – will show some examples shortly
- Each programme is modular – can select modules or all of them
- These programmes can be **connected** to provide **development pathways** – on following slides

Typical Pathway: Process Operative and Supervisor

(A1 – A3 *Formulation Awareness*)

I1-I9 Introduction to Formulation

**Career Progression Options:
Select Modules from:**

(M1-M15 Formulation Manufacturing)

(L1-L15 Laboratory Formulation)

Programmes
could form part of
vocational
qualifications
such as
Intermediate,
Advanced and
Higher Level
Apprenticeships

Typical Pathway: Senior Formulation Technician

(A1 – A3 *Formulation Awareness*)

I1-I9 Introduction to Formulation

L1-L15 Laboratory Formulation

**Career Progression Options:
Full programme or modules from:**

M1-M15 Formulation Manufacturing

Q1-Q3 Formulation Quickstart

S1-S21 Formulation Science and
Technology

Programmes could form part of vocational qualifications such as Intermediate, Advanced and Higher Level Apprenticeships leading on to HNC/HND or foundation degree.

Could form part of academic qualifications e.g. BSc, M.Chem, MSc.

Typical Pathway: Process Technician Formulation

(A1 – A3	<i>Formulation Awareness</i>)
I1-I9	Introduction to Formulation
M1-M15	Formulation Manufacturing

Career Progression Options: Full programme or modules from:

L1-L15	Laboratory Formulation
Q1-Q3	Formulation Quickstart
S1-S21	Formulation Science and Technology



Programmes could form part of vocational qualifications such as Intermediate, Advanced and Higher Level Apprenticeships leading on to HNC/HND or foundation degree.

Could form part of academic qualifications e.g. BSc, M.Chem, MSc.

Typical Pathway: Formulation Scientist R&D

(A1 – A3 *Formulation Awareness*)

Q1-Q3 Formulation Quickstart

S1-S21 Formulation Science and
Technology

Career Progression Options:
Modules from:

F1-Fn Advanced Formulation

Could form part
of academic
qualifications e.g.
BSc, M.Chem,
MSc.

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F1-Fn	Advanced Formulation	Graduate and above

- Outlines have been drawn up for each of these programmes
- Selected examples follow – others available to look at if there are questions
- Modular – potential for companies to customise some modules with industry or company specific material.

Formulation Awareness A1-A3

Ref	A1	A2	A3
Module Title	The Business of Formulation	Designing Formulations	Making Formulations
Target Population	General, Managerial, Non Technical, Non Specialist, Manufacturing Staff		
Description	Industries, products and markets How formulation adds value Market drivers, trends and challenges Regulations Sustainability and formulation Formulation supply chain	Why do formulations need to be designed? New & improved products. Types of common formulation. What does the formulator need to consider? Approaches to formulation design.	The path from lab to plant. Scale-up. How are formulations made? Materials handling. Measurement and control. Safety. Quality systems, Lean Manufacturing, Resource Efficiency
Learning Aims	Gain basic understanding of: (1) businesses that formulate, opportunities and challenges (2) how and why formulations are designed in the lab, (3) how formulations are manufactured		
Assessment	Self assessment questionnaire, multiple choice. No formal qualification planned.		
Delivery Location	Classroom. Webinar, Online. Lab		
Pre-Requisites	None		
Comment	Opportunities for case studies, breakout groups / role playing / business game Potential to deliver as series of short online modules or in-person Chance to get a hands on feel and design a very simple formulation in lab or to view (and use?) pilot and full scale equipment.		
Duration	1 day	0.5 days	0.5 days

Learner Groups	A1	A2	A3
Senior/General Management			
Functional Management			
Formulation Scientist R&D			
Senior Formulation Technician			
Process Technician Formulation			
Process Operative and Supervisor			
QA, Tech Service, other Technical			
General Staff - non Technical			



Introduction to Formulation I1-I9

Ref	I1	I2	I3	I4	I5	I6	I7	I8	I9
Module Title	Ingredients and their functions	Types of Formulations	Formulation Design	Measuring Formulations	Application Testing*	Wet Processing	Dry Processing	Control Systems	Quality Systems
Target Population	Entry level technicians. Technical but non-specialist staff. Manufacturing staff.								
Description	Ingredients: use, origin, functions, properties, chemical safety. Main types of formulated product. Intended use leads to the choice of product form. Main features & properties of product formats. Combining ingredients to create formulation to meet needs. Lab equipment used to make & measure. Tests of formulation & application properties. Measurement & characterisation techniques used. Common generic & industry-specific application tests - related to characterisation methods and formulation design parameters. Introduction to pilot and manufacturing scale operations. Issues with materials handling and processability? Scale up factors. GMP, GLP, ISO xyz, Lean Manufacturing, Resource Efficiency								
Learning Aims	Gain basic grounding in ingredients for formulation, formulation types and product forms. Gain practical experience of basic formulation design, characterisation methods, common industry application tests, processing equipment, production considerations and constraints.								
Assessment	Assessment as existing vocational / apprentice schemes. Would ideally form part of recognised vocational qualification								
Delivery Location	Classroom. Webinar, Online, Lab, Pilot plant, Plant								
Pre-Requisites	Chemistry / Physical Science (basic vocational level or GCSE?)								
Comment	Foundation modules intended for entry level technical and manufacturing staff with modest amount of existing scientific qualification. Potentially part of an apprentice level qualification . Focus on hands-on practicalities rather than theory. Lots of lab experience and demos . Potential for variants for specific industries, e.g. pharma, cosmetics, coatings etc.								
Duration	1 day	1 day	1.5 days	1.5 days	1 day	1 day	1 day	1 day	1 day

Learner Groups		I1	I2	I3	I4	I5	I6	I7	I8	I9
Senior/General Management										
Functional Management										
Formulation Scientist R&D										
Senior Formulation Technician										
Process Technician Formulation										
Process Operative and Supervisor										
QA, Tech Service, other Technical										
General Staff - non Technical										

Formulation Quickstart Q1-Q3

Ref	Q1	Q2	Q3
Module Title	Colloids, Emulsions, Dispersions	Formulation Processing	Formulation Measurement
Target Population	New graduate or higher scientists in R&D or process development. Also as refresher		
Description	Making & stabilising colloids. Theory & practice. Steric and electrostatic stabilisation. Making and stabilising emulsions and dispersions, gels, foams etc. Ingredients and their use. Processing principles and equipment for the common “wet” and “dry” formulation types. Theory and use of characterisation and measurement techniques such as particle sizing, rheology, microscopy. Online measurement methods. High throughput technology for formulation development.		
Learning Aims	Enable graduate level scientists and engineers in R&D, manufacturing or other areas to get up to speed with most important elements of formulation science and technology to enable them to start leading technical teams, activities and projects. The programme covers relevant scientific theory as well as providing practical advice and case studies		
Assessment	Self assessment questionnaire with follow-up. Formal assessment if Masters qualification is to be followed.		
Delivery Location	Classroom and lab demo		
Pre-Requisites	First degree in relevant physical or life sciences . Or equivalent vocational (L or M modules) + relevant experience		
Comment	Introduction to formulation for new graduate or for more experienced scientists / engineers who are not formulation specialists		
Duration	1 day	1 day	1 day

Learner Groups	Q1	Q2	Q3
Senior/General Management			
Functional Management			
Formulation Scientist R&D			
Senior Formulation Technician			
Process Technician Formulation			
Process Operative and Supervisor			
QA, Tech Service, other Technical			
General Staff - non Technical			

Development Process

- The Industrial Partnership provides employers with the opportunity to shape formulation training in line with demand
- The IP will identify formulation courses that are available and can form part of workforce development
- Within the IP there is provision, with employer support, to develop workforce development courses
- The IP will identify formulation courses that are available and can form modules within a Masters programme
- Where gaps are identified there is the opportunity to work with HEFCE to develop new modules as part of a Masters programme
- These Masters modules would be available as stand-alone courses

Delivery Modes?

- Not considered in detail so far in draft curriculum
- However the proposed Industrial Partnership would allow novel delivery modes to be developed
- e.g. e-learning modules, webinar delivery, practicals, project work, mentoring at senior levels
- Opportunity also to build in follow-up to ensure learning is embedded
 - Link learning to business and R&D activities and projects
 - Avoid the “go on a training course and forget it” mentality!
- Can be developed as Industrial Partnership progresses

Next Steps

- Companies engaged in and leading the Industrial Partnership have opportunity to shape the curriculum
 - That process starts here
 - Make it relevant and beneficial for your industry, company, employees
- Providers of skills and training can also get involved
 - Opportunity to align your offer to formulation curriculum as it develops
 - Opportunity to devise innovative content and delivery modes
 - Opportunity for accreditation
- Employees can contribute by identifying needs, gaps and opportunities via employers, providers and professional bodies

Questions for the Workshop Today

- How could the list of **job roles** be made more comprehensive or relevant?
- What additional **career pathways** could be considered?
- How could the list of **programmes** be improved?
- How comprehensive are the **individual modules** in the draft curriculum?
- How well does the draft curriculum reflect actual (or desired) **company or industry practice**?

Thank You

...and an opportunity to mention some training happening already...

Forthcoming Courses from iFormulate

Solid State Stability of Formulations: *The Underlying Science and New Approaches For Rapid Determination*

- One-Day Training Course, UK - Nottingham/East Midlands – May 8th 2013

iFormulate4Nano: Formulating Nanoparticles

- One-Day Training Course, UK- Manchester – June 18th - in collaboration with the NanoFormulation2013 Conference
- See www.iformulate.biz or e-mail info@iformulate.biz for details.

Appendix

Further Programmes not detailed in main presentation

Advanced Formulation F1-Fn

Ref	F1-Fn
Module Title	Advanced Formulation
Target Population	Experienced senior scientists and technologists
Description	The Advanced Formulation Programme would be a set of customised and highly specialised modules each lasting 1 - 3 days for experienced and advanced level practitioners. The programme would be designed for individuals or small groups with close involvement of senior and line management as this would be strategic investment in a small number of individuals. The Programme could include customised intensive learning (and self-learning) using consultants, academics, conference and seminar attendance, secondments (e.g. to Universities or other organisations) and substantial project assignment components
Learning Aims	To develop to a very high level the skills and knowledge of experienced career formulators on a company “scientific and technical” ladder. To ensure these skills are used in a real industrial environment.
Assessment	Potential to be part of a Masters (or even doctoral) level course e.g. M FormSci and assessed accordingly
Delivery Location	Flexible as needed. Substantial opportunity for web/self learning.
Pre-Requisites	S1-S21 (or equivalent) plus significant industrial experience.
Comment	Individuals would most likely become company experts and mentors – so broader non-technical skills would need to be considered as part of a wider competency framework and career planning.
Duration	Custom

Learner Groups	F1-Fn
Senior/General Management	
Functional Management	
Formulation Scientist R&D	
Senior Formulation Technician	
Process Technician Formulation	
Process Operative and Supervisor	
QA, Tech Service, other Technical	
General Staff - non Technical	