



OIL AND GAS | OG-040

Petroleum Geology for Non-Geologists

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Course content

Why Attend

Many professionals in the oil and gas industry work closely with geologists without a geoscience background: engineers, commercial staff, finance professionals, lawyers and managers. Understanding the basic concepts of petroleum geology helps them communicate effectively and make better decisions.

This Aractech course explains how petroleum systems form, how hydrocarbons are generated, migrate and are trapped, how exploration is carried out, and how geologists and geophysicists describe reservoirs and estimate volumes. Technical concepts are presented in clear, non-mathematical language with many real examples.

Course Methodology

- Non-technical explanations with visuals
- Map and log interpretation exercises
- Case studies of discoveries
- Group discussions
- Daily recap

Course Objectives

- Explain basic geological concepts and time scales
- Describe petroleum systems: source, reservoir, seal and trap
- Understand exploration methods including seismic
- Interpret basic maps and well logs
- Understand how volumes and risks are estimated
- Communicate effectively with geoscience teams

Course content

| Target Audience

- Engineers without geoscience background
- Commercial and business development staff
- Finance and legal professionals in oil and gas
- Managers and administrators

Course outline

Detailed course outline

Day-by-day outline for Petroleum Geology for Non-Geologists.

Day 1 - Basic Geology

- 09:00-09:39 | Earth structure and plate tectonics
- 09:39-10:18 | Rock types and the rock cycle
- 10:18-10:57 | Geological time
- 10:57-11:00 | Sedimentary environments
- 11:00-11:30 | Coffee break
- 11:30-12:05 | Sedimentary environments (continued)
- 12:05-12:43 | Structural geology basics
- 12:43-14:00 | Exercise: Identifying rock types

Day 2 - Petroleum Systems

- 09:00-09:39 | Source rocks and generation
- 09:39-10:18 | Migration
- 10:18-10:57 | Reservoir rocks
- 10:57-11:00 | Seals and traps
- 11:00-11:30 | Coffee break
- 11:30-12:05 | Seals and traps (continued)
- 12:05-12:43 | Petroleum system elements
- 12:43-14:00 | Case study: A petroleum system

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Day 3 - Exploration Methods

- 09:00-09:39 | Exploration workflow
- 09:39-10:18 | Seismic acquisition and interpretation
- 10:18-10:57 | Gravity and magnetics
- 10:57-11:00 | Exploration wells
- 11:00-11:30 | Coffee break
- 11:30-12:05 | Exploration wells (continued)
- 12:05-12:43 | Risk and chance of success
- 12:43-14:00 | Exercise: Interpreting a seismic section

Day 4 - Reservoir Description

- 09:00-09:39 | Well logs basics
- 09:39-10:18 | Core and fluid samples
- 10:18-10:57 | Maps and cross-sections
- 10:57-11:00 | Reservoir heterogeneity
- 11:00-11:30 | Coffee break
- 11:30-12:05 | Reservoir heterogeneity (continued)
- 12:05-12:43 | Volumetric estimation
- 12:43-14:00 | Exercise: Simple volume estimate

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Day 5 - Geology in Business Decisions

- 09:00-09:45 | Prospect evaluation
- 09:45-10:30 | Appraisal and development
- 10:30-11:00 | Uncertainty communication
- 11:00-11:30 | Coffee break
- 11:30-11:45 | Uncertainty communication (continued)
- 11:45-12:30 | Working with geoscience teams
- 12:30-13:15 | Geology and energy transition
- 13:15-14:00 | Capstone: Prospect review presentation

Seminar dates

Available seminar dates

Live dates and pricing for Petroleum Geology for Non-Geologists generated from the course details page.

Date	Location	Format	Fee
2 - 6 November 2026	London	Classroom	€2,315
21 - 25 December 2026	Istanbul	Classroom	€1,978
18 - 22 January 2027	Istanbul	Classroom	€1,978
15 - 19 February 2027	Cape Town	Classroom	€1,625
15 - 19 March 2027	Barcelona	Classroom	€2,815
19 - 23 April 2027	Rome	Classroom	€3,460
17 - 21 May 2027	Munich	Classroom	€3,225
21 - 25 June 2027	Amsterdam	Classroom	€2,830
19 - 23 July 2027	London	Classroom	€2,315
16 - 20 August 2027	Istanbul	Classroom	€1,978

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18 - 22 October 2027	Cape Town	Classroom	€1,625
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20 - 24 December 2027	Rome	Classroom	€3,460
2 - 6 November 2026	Online / Live	Online / Live	€1,815
21 - 25 December 2026	Online / Live	Online / Live	€1,815
18 - 22 January 2027	Online / Live	Online / Live	€1,815
15 - 19 February 2027	Online / Live	Online / Live	€1,815
15 - 19 March 2027	Online / Live	Online / Live	€1,815
19 - 23 April 2027	Online / Live	Online / Live	€1,815

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21 - 25 June 2027	Online / Live	Online / Live	€1,815
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