

Resource Recovery from Wastewater (I002771)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 3.0 **Study time 90 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (Year)	English	Gent	independent work lecture seminar
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Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Du Laing, Gijs	LA24	lecturer-in-charge
Ganigué, Ramon	LA25	co-lecturer
Rabaey, Korneel	LA25	co-lecturer
Vanoppen, Marjolein	LA24	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026	crdts	offering
International Master of Science in Sustainable and Innovative Natural Resource Management	3	A
Exchange Programme in Bioscience Engineering: Environmental Technology (master's level)	3	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Resource recovery, recycling, wastewater, water

Position of the course

In this web-based course participants are made familiar with processes used for recovery of valuable resources from liquid waste streams, as well as technologies and unit operations involved in these. The participants learn what type of components can be recovered from wastewater streams originating from various industrial activities. They learn to describe the fundamental principles and commonly applied technologies to recover resources from various wastewater streams, including the advantages, disadvantages and typical application area of each technology. They learn to set a design basis for the different recovery technologies, conduct preliminary reactor sizing and calculate performance predictions. Moreover, opportunities, challenges and research needs for resource recovery from wastewater are identified in terms of environmental and economic benefits.

Contents

- Introduction to resource recovery from wastewater
- Nutrients (N and P) recovery from wastewater
- Recovery of organics from wastewater
- Recovery of metals from wastewater
- Water reuse
- Energy recovery from wastewater
- Case studies

Initial competences

Advanced knowledge of chemistry (min. 15 ECTS at academic level), basic knowledge of microbiology and microbial technology, mathematics and physics (min. 15 ECTS at academic level)

Final competences

- 1 Have systematic and applied insights in techniques for qualitative and quantitative exploration and physicochemical characterisation of resources present in the environment, 1 and in different physical and (bio)chemical processing technologies and industrial processes to extract resources from liquid waste materials, generated throughout the value chain, and transform them into valuable products
- 2 Be able to select, apply and develop innovative technologies for optimising material flows in the value chain, with a particular focus on resource recovery from waste, taking the industrial 1 process context into consideration.
- 3 Understand the importance of resource recovery from wastewater within the industry value chains of the 21th century in general and the global low carbon economy in particular;
- 4 Describe some of the key components that can be recovered from wastewater streams originating from various industrial activities;
- 5 Describe the fundamental principles and commonly applied technologies to recover resources from various wastewater streams, including the advantages, disadvantages and typical application area of each technology;
- 6 Set a design basis for the different recovery technologies, conduct preliminary reactor sizing and calculate performance predictions;
- 7 Identify opportunities, challenges and research needs for resource recovery from wastewater in terms of environmental and economic benefits.

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Web-based course with additional assignment.

Study material

Type: Audiovisual Material

Name: Resource recovery from wastewater

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Online Available : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

The lecturers are available through the e-learning platform for questioning, feedback and guidance.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions, Written assessment with open-ended questions, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions, Written assessment with open-ended questions, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions, Participation, Written assessment with open-ended questions, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Calculation of the examination mark

