

## Rational Use of Materials (E065460)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*  
**Credits 5.0**                      **Study time 150 h**                      **Contact hrs**                      45.0 h

### Course offerings in academic year 2022-2023

A (semester 1)                      English                      Gent

### Lecturers in academic year 2022-2023

Depover, Tom                      TW11                      lecturer-in-charge

### Offered in the following programmes in 2022-2023

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Science and Technology (main subject Chemistry)	5	A
Bridging Programme Master of Science in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research	5	A
Bridging Programme Master of Science in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research	5	A
Master of Science in Chemistry (main subject (Bio)Organic and Polymer Chemistry)	5	A
Master of Science in Chemistry (main subject Analytical and Environmental Chemistry)	5	A
Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture (main subject Architectural Design and Construction Techniques)	5	A
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering (main subject Communication and Information Technology )	5	A
Master of Science in Electromechanical Engineering (main subject Control Engineering and Automation)	5	A
Master of Science in Business Engineering (main subject Data Analytics)	5	A
Master of Science in Electromechanical Engineering (main subject Electrical Power Engineering)	5	A
Master of Science in Electrical Engineering (main subject Electronic Circuits and Systems)	5	A
Master of Science in Electromechanical Engineering (main subject Maritime Engineering)	5	A
Master of Science in Chemistry (main subject Materials and Nano Chemistry)	5	A
Master of Science in Electromechanical Engineering (main subject Mechanical Construction)	5	A
Master of Science in Electromechanical Engineering (main subject Mechanical Energy Engineering)	5	A
Master of Science in Business Engineering (main subject Operations Management)	5	A
Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture (main subject Urban Design and Architecture)	5	A
Master of Science in Biology	5	A
Master of Science in Civil Engineering	5	A
Master of Science in Chemical Engineering	5	A
Master of Science in Civil Engineering	5	A
Master of Science in Computer Science Engineering	5	A
Master of Science in Computer Science Engineering	5	A
Master of Science in Fire Safety Engineering	5	A
Master of Science in Sustainable Materials Engineering	5	A
Master of Science in Engineering Physics	5	A
Master of Science in Chemical Engineering	5	A
Master of Science in Engineering Physics	5	A
International Master of Science in Sustainable and Innovative Natural Resource Management	5	A
Exchange Programme Architecture	5	A
Postgraduate Programme in Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Engineering – Foundations Track	5	A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

Life cycle analysis, 3R's (reduce, re-use, recycle), materials properties, material selection, recycling technology, material scarcity, precious metals, light weight materials

**Position of the course**

This course takes a closer look on the complete life cycle of different products and on the role materials play in this life cycle. Materials properties determine material selection during design, but also affect the recyclability of the product afterwards. Different recycling options and advanced recycling technologies are discussed. The scarcity debate is elaborated. The differences between the recycling of bulk materials (steel, aluminum, polymers) and special/technology materials (precious metals) and their specific life cycle structure is given. Waste products of one life cycle can offer valuable materials for another life cycle. Dedicated material selection problems are solved, including for example the CO2 footprint. This will lead to a common knowledge on recycling, the scarcity debate and other related environmental issues.

**Contents**

- Introduction on the different material groups and their properties. Link between material processing, structure, properties and performance.
- Introduction on life cycle analysis and exercises on materials selection taking into account eco-properties such as CO2 footprint. The aluminum life cycle as an example of cradle to cradle life cycle.
- Materials selection for light weight vehicles. Overview of different materials available (metals, polymers, ceramics, composites)
- Recycling and life cycle issues for lightweight vehicles. Overview terminology. Complexity of the recycling process, overview of available and advanced recycling technologies.
- Difficulties in lightweight materials recycling. Effect of presence of coatings. Difficulties in recycling polymer matrix composites
- Significance of special and precious metals. Scarcity debate
- Opportunities and challenges for recovering valuable materials. Factors determining recycling efficiency for technology materials. Significance of life cycle structures.

**Initial competences**

Basics on chemistry and physics as lectured in the bachelor

**Final competences**

- 1 Understanding the impact of material properties on the material selection process during design and how this affects the recyclability of the final product
- 2 Knowledge on advanced recycling technologies and how material properties can be used during recycling as well
- 3 Understanding the difference between the recyclability of special/precious metals and bulk materials. Insights in complete life cycle and the role of recycling in life cycle analysis
- 4 Being able to enter a broad societal discussion concerning environmental issues, recycling and material scarcity

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

**Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

**Teaching methods**

Lecture, seminar: practical PC room classes, online lecture

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

Due to COVID19, changes to the teaching methods might be needed

**Learning materials and price**

Slides + syllabus + wetenschappelijke artikels  
Estimated cost 10 Euro

**References**

Precious materials handbook ISBN 978-3-8343-3259-2

**Course content-related study coaching**

**Evaluation methods**

end-of-term evaluation

**Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period**

Written examination, oral examination

**Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period**

Written examination, oral examination

**Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation**

**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation**

not applicable

**Extra information on the examination methods**

During examination period: oral exam (theory) + written exam (exercise)

**Calculation of the examination mark**