Geological Core Description and Evaluation Training Course

OGI-1401 · 5 days · 15 CPD hours · English

Overview

The Geological Core Description and Evaluation Training Course provides oil and gas professionals with the technical capabilities required to examine, describe, classify and evaluate geological core samples for reliable subsurface interpretation. Institute For Oil & Gas Training delivers this specialised programme to strengthen geological core description practices, improve the consistency of core logging techniques and support informed exploration, reservoir characterisation and field development decisions.

Geological core samples provide direct physical evidence of subsurface formations and offer valuable information about lithology, depositional environments, sedimentary structures, stratigraphic relationships, reservoir quality and geological heterogeneity. Accurate interpretation of these samples enables geoscientists and reservoir professionals to establish a stronger understanding of the formations encountered during drilling. However, extracting reliable geological information requires a systematic approach to sample examination, lithological core description, facies identification, core photography and geological core evaluation.

Organisations operating in exploration, drilling, reservoir development and production depend on accurate geological information to reduce subsurface uncertainty and improve technical decision-making. Inconsistent core descriptions, inadequate documentation and differences in interpretation between geological teams affect the reliability of geological models and reservoir assessments. A structured core description methodology establishes a common technical basis for recording geological observations and communicating subsurface information across multidisciplinary teams.

This course examines the complete process of geological core description, beginning with core sample handling, preservation and preparation before progressing into detailed lithological examination and geological interpretation. Participants develop an understanding of rock types, mineral composition, grain size, sorting, texture, sedimentary structures, depositional characteristics and stratigraphic features. The programme also addresses the identification of geological boundaries, fractures, bedding characteristics, sedimentary facies and other features that influence reservoir architecture.

Particular attention is given to practical core logging techniques and the preparation of consistent geological records. Participants examine how to organise core observations, apply appropriate descriptive terminology, capture representative core photographs and maintain reliable geological documentation. These activities establish a systematic approach to recording visible characteristics and distinguishing direct observations from geological interpretations.

The programme also explores the relationship between geological core evaluation and reservoir characterisation. Participants examine how core observations contribute to understanding depositional environments, formation continuity, geological heterogeneity and potential reservoir intervals. The integration of core descriptions with well

logs, geological correlations and other subsurface information provides a more comprehensive understanding of reservoir properties and formation behaviour.

Delivered by Institute For Oil & Gas Training, this programme is designed for professionals who require practical geological interpretation capabilities and a consistent approach to core description. It strengthens the connection between geological observations and operational decisions, helping organisations improve subsurface data quality, geological communication and the technical foundations of exploration and reservoir development.

Objectives

- Explain the geological principles and operational importance of geological core description and evaluation in oil and gas exploration and production.
- Apply systematic core handling, identification, preparation and preservation procedures.
- Recognise major sedimentary and reservoir rock types using their visible geological characteristics.
- Apply appropriate core logging techniques to record lithology, texture, mineral composition, grain size and sedimentary characteristics.
- Prepare accurate lithological core descriptions using consistent geological terminology.
- Identify sedimentary structures and interpret their significance in understanding depositional processes.
- Distinguish different sedimentary facies and evaluate their relationships with depositional environments.
- Recognise bedding characteristics, stratigraphic boundaries, fractures, discontinuities and other significant geological features.
- Apply effective core photography practices to produce clear and traceable visual geological records.
- Organise geological observations into structured core description logs and technical documentation.
- Evaluate geological variations and identify features that influence reservoir continuity and heterogeneity.
- Integrate core observations with well logs and other subsurface information to strengthen geological interpretation.
- Communicate core description findings effectively to multidisciplinary exploration, drilling and reservoir development teams.

Training methodology

Institute For Oil & Gas Training adopts an industry-focused delivery methodology that combines technical presentations, practical interpretation exercises, geological case studies, group discussions and realistic oil and gas operational scenarios. The methodology connects geological principles with the practical requirements of core examination, description, documentation and evaluation.

The programme begins by establishing the geological principles behind core examination and the importance of maintaining sample integrity. Participants examine core handling procedures, sample identification, preservation considerations and the organisation of geological records. These activities establish a consistent foundation for subsequent interpretation exercises.

Practical exercises focus on recognising lithological characteristics and applying appropriate core logging techniques. Participants examine examples of different rock types and assess their mineral composition, grain size, sorting, texture, colour, sedimentary features and visible geological boundaries. The exercises demonstrate how to produce structured lithological core descriptions using clear and consistent terminology.

Sedimentary structures and facies identification form another important part of the methodology. Participants investigate bedding patterns, laminations, cross-bedding, grading, bioturbation, erosional surfaces and other depositional features. Geological case studies demonstrate how these observations contribute to depositional environment interpretation, stratigraphic correlation and reservoir architecture assessment.

Core photography and geological documentation exercises address the importance of producing accurate visual records. Participants examine photographic arrangements, sample identification, depth references, scale placement, lighting considerations and image organisation. They also explore how photographic records support geological interpretation, technical reporting and communication between exploration, drilling and reservoir teams.

Group exercises provide opportunities to compare geological observations and discuss differences in interpretation. Participants work through representative core description scenarios, identify significant geological features and develop structured descriptions. These discussions reinforce the importance of distinguishing observed characteristics from interpretive conclusions.

The methodology also incorporates integrated geological evaluation scenarios. Participants examine how core descriptions relate to wireline log responses, formation boundaries, depositional trends and reservoir characteristics. This approach demonstrates how geological core evaluation contributes to a broader subsurface understanding rather than remaining an isolated descriptive activity.

Through practical application and industry-relevant examples, Institute For Oil & Gas Training develops the ability to translate physical core observations into organised geological information that supports exploration, reservoir characterisation and field development.

Organisational impact

Accurate geological core description and evaluation strengthen the quality of subsurface information available to oil and gas organisations. By developing consistent technical capabilities across geological teams, companies improve the reliability of core records and establish a stronger foundation for exploration, reservoir characterisation and field development.

Improved Geological Data Quality

Consistent core logging techniques establish a structured approach to recording lithology, sedimentary structures, mineral composition and geological boundaries. Organisations benefit from more complete geological records, reduced inconsistencies between descriptions and improved confidence in the information used for subsurface interpretation.

Stronger Reservoir Characterisation

Detailed lithological core description and facies identification provide valuable information about depositional environments, formation variability and reservoir architecture. These observations strengthen geological models and support more informed assessments of reservoir continuity, heterogeneity and potential productive intervals.

More Effective Exploration Decisions

Reliable core evaluation helps exploration teams understand the geological characteristics of encountered formations. Improved interpretation of lithological changes, sedimentary features and stratigraphic relationships supports better geological correlation and more informed evaluation of exploration prospects.

Improved Communication Between Technical Teams

Standardised geological descriptions and organised core photography create a common reference for geologists, petrophysicists, reservoir engineers and drilling personnel. This improves technical communication, reduces ambiguity and supports more effective collaboration across departments.

More Efficient Geological Workflows

A systematic approach to sample examination, documentation and interpretation improves the organisation of core evaluation activities. Teams spend less time resolving incomplete descriptions, locating geological records and reconciling inconsistent observations.

Stronger Geological Risk Assessment

Recognition of fractures, discontinuities, lithological variations and depositional features improves the identification of geological characteristics relevant to reservoir performance and subsurface uncertainty. This information strengthens technical assessments and supports more informed development planning.

Improved Technical Documentation

Consistent photographic records, structured geological logs and traceable sample information strengthen the quality of technical reporting. Organisations establish more reliable geological information resources for future interpretation, internal reviews and multidisciplinary project activities.

Personal impact

Participants develop practical geological interpretation capabilities that strengthen their effectiveness in exploration, drilling, reservoir characterisation and subsurface evaluation roles.

Advanced Core Description Skills

Participants strengthen their ability to examine geological core samples and recognise important lithological characteristics. They develop a systematic understanding of mineral composition, grain size, texture, sorting, colour and sedimentary features, enabling more accurate geological descriptions.

Improved Geological Interpretation

The course develops the ability to recognise sedimentary structures, interpret depositional characteristics and distinguish geological facies. Participants gain a stronger understanding of how individual core observations contribute to broader geological interpretations.

Greater Confidence in Core Logging

Participants improve their ability to apply structured core logging techniques, record geological observations and prepare consistent lithological descriptions. These capabilities support more effective participation in core examination and geological reporting activities.

Practical Photography and Documentation Capabilities

Participants develop an understanding of core photography, sample identification, depth referencing and geological record organisation. They strengthen their ability to prepare visual documentation that supports accurate interpretation and professional communication.

Enhanced Reservoir Evaluation Knowledge

The programme strengthens participants' understanding of the relationship between geological core evaluation and reservoir characterisation. They develop the ability to recognise geological variations and assess their significance for formation continuity and reservoir architecture.

Stronger Multidisciplinary Collaboration

Participants improve their ability to communicate geological findings to petrophysicists, reservoir engineers, drilling professionals and exploration specialists. They develop a more integrated understanding of the information required by different technical departments.

Professional Development

The acquired knowledge strengthens the professional capabilities of geologists and other subsurface specialists. Participants become better equipped to undertake core description responsibilities, contribute to geological evaluation projects and support technical decisions throughout the exploration and production lifecycle.

Who should attend

- Geologists: Develop systematic core description and geological interpretation capabilities for exploration and field development activities.

- Core Analysts: Strengthen their understanding of geological observations, lithological descriptions and the interpretation of core characteristics.
- Wellsite Geologists: Improve their ability to recognise lithological variations and communicate geological information encountered during drilling operations.
- Exploration Geologists: Develop stronger capabilities in facies identification, depositional interpretation and geological correlation.
- Sedimentologists: Improve the interpretation of sedimentary structures, depositional environments and facies relationships.
- Reservoir Geologists: Strengthen geological core evaluation capabilities for reservoir architecture, heterogeneity and formation characterisation.
- Petrophysicists: Improve their understanding of geological core descriptions and their relationship with well log interpretation and formation evaluation.
- Reservoir Engineers: Develop a stronger understanding of geological information used in reservoir modelling and development planning.
- Drilling Engineers and Drilling Supervisors: Understand the geological information obtained from core samples and its relevance to drilling and formation evaluation activities.
- Geoscience Team Leaders and Supervisors: Establish more consistent geological description practices and improve the quality of technical communication within their teams.
- Subsurface Managers: Strengthen their understanding of core evaluation workflows and the geological information required for exploration and development decisions.
- Technical Consultants and Geological Project Specialists: Improve their ability to evaluate core description information and contribute to integrated subsurface projects.

Course outline

Fundamentals of Geological Core Examination and Sample Management

This module introduces the geological principles and operational practices involved in examining and managing core samples from oil and gas wells. Participants explore the importance of core samples as direct geological evidence and examine how sample quality, identification and preservation influence the reliability of subsequent geological interpretation.

The module covers core sample types, sample handling, depth referencing, core condition assessment and preparation for geological examination. Participants also investigate the importance of maintaining sample continuity, documenting recovery information and establishing an organised workflow before detailed core logging begins.

Lithological Core Description and Geological Logging Techniques

This module develops the practical knowledge required to identify and describe the lithological characteristics of geological core samples. Participants examine how rock composition, texture, grain size, sorting, colour and mineral characteristics contribute to accurate geological descriptions.

The module focuses on establishing a consistent approach to lithological core description and geological logging. Participants investigate the recognition of major sedimentary rock types, visible mineral characteristics, grain relationships, textural variations and lithological boundaries. Attention is also given to recording observations using appropriate geological terminology and maintaining consistency across core intervals.

Sedimentary Structures, Facies Identification and Depositional Interpretation

This module examines the interpretation of sedimentary structures and geological facies as essential components of geological core evaluation. Participants investigate how depositional processes influence the characteristics and distribution of sedimentary formations and how these characteristics appear within recovered core samples.

The module explores bedding patterns, laminations, cross-bedding, graded bedding, bioturbation, erosional surfaces and other sedimentary features. Participants examine the relationship between sedimentary structures, grain characteristics and facies associations. The focus is on using observable geological evidence to interpret depositional environments and understand the development of reservoir formations.

Core Photography, Geological Documentation and Quality Control

This module focuses on the preparation of reliable geological records through systematic core photography and documentation. Participants examine how visual evidence supports geological descriptions, technical reporting, interpretation reviews and communication between subsurface teams.

The module covers photographic preparation, sample identification, depth references, scale placement, lighting considerations and image organisation. Participants also examine the relationship between photographs and written core descriptions, including the importance of maintaining traceability between physical samples, geological observations and recorded information. Quality control considerations are addressed to strengthen the consistency and usability of geological documentation.

Integrated Geological Core Evaluation and Reservoir Characterisation

This module brings together the geological description and interpretation techniques developed throughout the programme. Participants examine how lithological observations, sedimentary structures, facies identification and photographic records contribute to an integrated understanding of subsurface formations.

The module focuses on evaluating geological variations, identifying potential reservoir intervals and understanding the significance of depositional characteristics for reservoir architecture. Participants explore the integration of core descriptions with wireline logs, stratigraphic information and other subsurface datasets. Practical case studies

demonstrate how geological core evaluation supports formation correlation, reservoir characterisation and exploration and development decisions.

Scheduled dates

Dates	Venue	Format	Fee
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Abuja, Nigeria	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Accra, Ghana	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Al Ain, United Arab Emirates	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Alberta, Canada	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	AlUla, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Amman, Jordan	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Amsterdam, Netherlands	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Athens, Greece	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Baku, Azerbaijan	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Barcelona, Spain	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Berlin, Germany	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Boston, United States	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Brussels, Belgium	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Budapest, Hungary	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Cairo, Egypt	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Cape Town, South Africa	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Casablanca, Morocco	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Dammam, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Dhahran, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Doha, Qatar	In person	£4,000

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16 - 20 Nov 2026	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Edinburgh, United Kingdom	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Edmonton, Canada	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Frankfurt, Germany	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Geneva, Switzerland	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Houston, United States	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Istanbul, Turkey	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Jakarta, Indonesia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Jubail, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Khamis Mushait, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Kigali, Rwanda	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Lisbon, Portugal	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Liverpool, United Kingdom	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	London, United Kingdom	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Los Angeles, United States	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Luanda, Angola	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Madrid, Spain	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Manama, Bahrain	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Marbella, Spain	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Marrakech, Morocco	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Miami, United States	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Milan, Italy	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Munich, Germany	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Muscat, Oman	In person	£4,000

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16 - 20 Nov 2026	Nairobi, Kenya	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	New York, United States	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Nice, France	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Nouakchott, Mauritania	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Oslo, Norway	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Paris, France	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Port Louis, Mauritius	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Prague, Czech Republic	In person	£4,000
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16 - 20 Nov 2026	Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Singapore	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Stockholm, Sweden	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Tokyo, Japan	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Toronto, Canada	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Tromso, Norway	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Vienna, Austria	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Zagreb, Croatia	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Zurich, Switzerland	In person	£4,000
16 - 20 Nov 2026	Online, Virtual	Online	£4,000
15 - 19 Mar 2027	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Mar 2027	Abuja, Nigeria	In person	£4,000
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15 - 19 Mar 2027	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	In person	£4,000

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15 - 19 Nov 2027	Amsterdam, Netherlands	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Athens, Greece	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Baku, Azerbaijan	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Barcelona, Spain	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Berlin, Germany	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Boston, United States	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Brussels, Belgium	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Budapest, Hungary	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Cairo, Egypt	In person	£4,000

Dates	Venue	Format	Fee
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Cape Town, South Africa	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Casablanca, Morocco	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Dammam, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Dhahran, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Doha, Qatar	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Edinburgh, United Kingdom	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Edmonton, Canada	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Frankfurt, Germany	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Geneva, Switzerland	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Houston, United States	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Istanbul, Turkey	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Jakarta, Indonesia	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Jubail, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Khamis Mushait, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Kigali, Rwanda	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Lisbon, Portugal	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Liverpool, United Kingdom	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	London, United Kingdom	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Los Angeles, United States	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Luanda, Angola	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Madrid, Spain	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Manama, Bahrain	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Marbella, Spain	In person	£4,000

Dates	Venue	Format	Fee
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Marrakech, Morocco	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Miami, United States	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Milan, Italy	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Munich, Germany	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Muscat, Oman	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Nairobi, Kenya	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	New York, United States	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Nice, France	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Nouakchott, Mauritania	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Oslo, Norway	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Paris, France	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Port Louis, Mauritius	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Prague, Czech Republic	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Pretoria, South Africa	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Rome, Italy	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Singapore	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Stockholm, Sweden	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Tokyo, Japan	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Toronto, Canada	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Tromso, Norway	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Vienna, Austria	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Zagreb, Croatia	In person	£4,000
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Zurich, Switzerland	In person	£4,000

Dates	Venue	Format	Fee
15 - 19 Nov 2027	Online, Virtual	Online	£4,000

Certificate

Upon successful completion of the Geological Core Description and Evaluation Training Course, attendees receive a Certificate of Completion from Institute For Oil & Gas Training.

The certificate recognises participation in the programme and completion of its training requirements. Attendees are required to meet the course attendance requirement and participate in the scheduled training activities to qualify for the Certificate of Completion.