

A female scientist with dark hair, wearing a white lab coat, a black turtleneck, and clear safety goggles, is working in a laboratory. She is wearing white gloves and using a white pipette to transfer a yellow liquid into a small vial. The background shows various laboratory equipment, including a solar panel, a red box, and a blue device.

# Traineeships and Company Assignments

## Environmental Studies

**has**  
university  
of applied sciences



# Working with Environmental Studies students from HAS University of Applied Sciences

HAS University of Applied Sciences is one of the Netherlands' leading higher education training and expertise centres for the agricultural, food and green development sectors, with campuses in Den Bosch and Venlo.

**Apply our experience and expertise to resolve your business problem**

At the HAS, we have a strong marketing ethic and close business ties. For years, our experience and expertise have helped resolve dilemmas in organisations across the sectors we serve.

Does your company have a burning question that needs solving within a pre-set timeframe? HAS undergraduates can help!

**Win-win**

We aim to give our students as much practical experience in their field as possible, and a real taste of the business in which they aim to work. Working on your project helps the students to gain additional hands-on experience while at the same time sharing their recently acquired skills and knowledge of the latest insight in the sector.

**1½ years' practical training**

HAS students work on practical assignments from the very first year of their course. Various field trips and company visits are followed by a short traineeship in the final term of the first year. In their third year, students go on 2 longer traineeships totalling 30 weeks. Either or both of these traineeships takes place outside of the Netherlands. In the fourth year HAS students graduate after submitting a Company Assignment which they work on for 20 weeks.

The Company Assignment involves a team of students, supervised by teaching staff and advisers working on a specific issue or problem for an organisation. By the time they graduate, our students will have spent around 1½ years in the field.

**Practical passion for their chosen field**

At the HAS University of Applied Sciences, 2,600 full-time students follow 14 courses. Our small-scale university is characterised by the practical passion of our students and staff for their profession. It is this passion, combined with the valuable practical skills and talents acquired and developed at HAS, that enables our students to tackle real-life problems.

**We pride ourselves on how we train and educate our students in the fundamental principles of:**

- Creating value
- Sustainability
- Entrepreneurship
- Internationalisation
- Talent-based learning



**Study programmes at the HAS Den Bosch campus**

- Business Administration & Agribusiness
- Animal Husbandry & Animal Care
- Food Design & Innovation
- Geo Media & Design
- Horticulture & Business Management
- International Food & Agribusiness
- Landscape Design
- Environmental Studies
- Urban & Rural Development
- Applied Biology
- Horticulture & Arable Farming
- Garden & Landscape Management
- Food Technology

**Study programmes at the HAS Venlo campus**

- Business Administration & Agribusiness
- Fresh Food & Innovation
- Applied Biology



# Environmental studies

The fulltime degree course in Environmental Studies trains students for a fascinating and varied career in contributing to a living planet, now and for the future. This practical-based course teaches students how to sustainably manage the world in which we live from a variety of angles, and to appreciate how small solutions can have a global impact.

Students learn how to apply subjects like chemistry, mathematics and biology so they can later help companies eliminate waste, minimise the depletion of natural resources and contribute to a prosperous society and a healthy environment. They are encouraged to come up with creative and innovative solutions to reducing the use of natural resources, energy and water, not only in the classroom, but also in external projects working together with companies. Not only do they acquire technical knowledge, students also learn how to set up management and environmental protection systems, and to work within the limits of the legal framework, including with respect to environmental law and licensing regulations. To support the course's international perspective on environmental issues, in addition to their Traineeship in the Netherlands, students also carry out a Traineeship abroad.

### Project-based education

It's important to get the right balance between theoretical and practical knowledge. This is why students spend a considerable amount of time out in the field, gaining valuable practical experience. We also bring practical knowledge into the classroom, in the form of an actual project assignment in each 10-week block on behalf of a company. All our Environmental Studies students specialise in consultancy and, after graduation, move on to careers as an environmental inspector, technologist, contractor or environmental supervisor, or working for a licensing authority or enforcement agency. They are employed by multinationals, engineering consultants, semi-governmental institutions, national, provincial or local government, water boards, water companies, industrial manufacturers, environmental companies and research institutions.

Year	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
1	In your element with Environmental Studies	Water at Work	Energy, Bio-energy & Companies	Companies & the Environment
2	Energy	Air	Soil	Water
3	Traineeship in the Netherlands		Traineeship Abroad	
4	Sustainable production in a healthy environment		Company Assignment	

### Traineeships and Company Assignment

HAS students can play an important role in your company. During their third year, they go on 2 individual Traineeships, totalling 40 weeks. One of these Traineeships takes place outside of The Netherlands and lasts at least 7 weeks. In the fourth year, HAS students graduate after completing a Company Assignment which they work on for 20 weeks. In the Company Assignment a team of students, supervised by teaching staff and advisers, work on a specific issue or problem for an organisation.





# Traineeships in the Netherlands and abroad

**During 2 Traineeships in their third year, students actively apply their theoretical knowledge in practice. One of these Traineeships must take place outside of the Netherlands. These Traineeships are important in helping students decide their graduation specialism.**

## **What can you expect from a Traineeship student?**

During the Traineeship period, the student is required to carry out one or more in-depth degree-level Environmental Studies assignments, independently or in a team. By getting involved in the daily tasks, students become acquainted with as many aspects of the business as possible and have the opportunity to work on their personal development. The focus of these Traineeships is for the student to get involved in the day-to-day operation of the business alongside the manager/owner. Whilst working on the project, the trainee is also available part of the time to carry out general activities within the traineeship department, provided these are suitable for the academic level of an undergraduate. The main aim, however, is for the student to work on the assignments and write a detailed report on the project they carry out, including coming up with a solution for your company.

## **What will your organisation get from the Traineeship?**

Students are only allowed to do a Traineeship, after they have successfully completed a significant part of their studies. Organisations offering Traineeships can expect a student with a positive and motivated attitude, eager to be an active member of the team and pull their weight. Your student will also have an inquisitive mind towards both your organisation and the sector in which you operate. Your student will also have gained some experience within

the field of Environmental Studies, for example in the area of project work. Key aspects of the Traineeship are the competences the student needs to have. They are required to keep a portfolio, in which they collate everything they produce during the Traineeship. They also set a number of personal learning objectives. The Traineeship is seen and assessed as a project, and must meet a number of requirements, including drawing up a plan of approach.

## **Supervision**

During their Traineeship students have a company supervisor and a supervising lecturer from the university, who, if possible, teaches in the same field as the Traineeship. The latter acts as the student's coach during the preparation phase leading up to the Traineeship and has regular contact with the student during their time with you. The supervising lecturer plays a minor role during the actual Traineeship, but is always available to answer queries from both the student and the host company. The company supervisor is the student's contact person during the Traineeship and ensures students have ample opportunity to familiarise themselves with the business. Towards the end of the Traineeship, the lecturer visits the host company. He assesses the student's reports and the Traineeship process. The discussion with the company supervisor plays an important role in the final appraisal.

## **Prerequisites for Traineeships**

- The student is allocated their own work space with the necessary facilities and is given sufficient time to work on the assignments, the portfolio and the report
- The company assigns the student with a supervisor (with a degree), who has regular contact with the student. Tasks include providing feedback on the quality of assignments carried out by the student and assessing the student's performance
- In the case of Traineeships in the Netherlands, the student may attend one traineeship review day at the university
- In the case of Traineeships in the Netherlands, the student may be visited once by the supervising lecturer





# Company Assignment

Do you need research to be carried out? Or are you looking for advice on a specific issue? A Company Assignment could be the answer. Students at the HAS University of Applied Sciences graduate after completing a Company Assignment. This assignment has a different structure to a Traineeship and is related to the specialist domain chosen by students, who carry out the assignment as a team under the supervision of a project leader from the university.

## HAS Knowledge Transfer & Training

Each year businesses and other organisations approach the HAS University of Applied Sciences with more than a thousand queries of all sizes and topics, including nutrition, agribusiness, the environment, green development, crops and animal production. The scope and complexity of these queries vary from a Traineeship of a couple of weeks to extensive research, and from a market analysis, to the development of an innovative technological application. The majority of the assignments are carried out under the auspices of the HAS Knowledge Transfer & Training.

## What can you expect from final year Environmental Studies students?

Final year students are able to demonstrate that they are ready for the employment market in professional surroundings. They operate as young professionals within an assignment team. You can expect an independent, decisive attitude. The students are assessed on their expertise, professionalism and performance within the team. The assignment approach, goals and results are laid down in a contract before the project starts. HAS University of Applied Sciences organises, coordinates and is responsible for the realisation of this contract. We also guarantee the confidentiality of the assignment, the information discovered and the results.

## What will your organisation get from the assignment?

As a client, you can expect results of the assignment to be based on all the necessary professional input in terms of expertise and time. Moreover, by choosing to work with tomorrow's professionals, you benefit from excellent value for money.

## Supervision

During the assignments the students are professionally supervised by experts. These consultants and lecturers are chosen for their knowledge of the sector and their focus on achieving results. Each team of final year students is supervised by a project manager (a lecturer or consultant from the university). Together with the students they analyse the problem and come up with potential solutions. The project manager is the first point of contact for you as the client and is responsible for the overall performance of the team. The project manager also assesses both the students' performance and their results.

## Characteristics of the Company Assignment

- We enter into contractual results-based commitment within the scope of the assignment, for this the students must be given the space and support to apply their skills and knowledge to your business
- For assignments based on-site, a suitable working environment should be provided
- Due to other study commitments related to competence development, students are only available to work on the assignment for 30 hours a week





# Discover how Environmental Studies students can help your organisation

## Offering a Traineeship post

If you have a Traineeship post available, please contact the course Traineeship coordinator. She will assess the Traineeship for its suitability for our students and bring it to the students' attention. Students are responsible for setting up their own Traineeships and so will contact you personally. Unfortunately we are unable to guarantee the availability of students for a particular Traineeship or project.

## Traineeship coordinator Environmental Studies

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## Field trips and business visits

By maximising cooperation with our external contacts, HAS University of Applied Sciences is able to ensure that our students are fully prepared for the real world of business. In addition to Traineeships and Company Assignments we are therefore also keen to hear from organisations willing to host field trips, company visits or perhaps give a guest lecture. If you are able to offer any of these options, please contact the Environmental Studies office.

## Environmental Studies office

Anky Huijmans  
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## Offering a Company Assignment

If you have a challenge HAS students might be able to help you with, why not contact us to discuss the different possibilities. We will assess the nature of the assignment and advise on the best way to approach it. Please contact the HAS Knowledge Transfer & Training team.

## HAS Knowledge Transfer & Training

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/ HAS International





**Password:  
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*Safeguarding  
our living planet  
for future  
generations*

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