Petroleum Technology (PETC) 1100 Introductory Well Control (.25 Unit)
[formerly Petroleum Technology 94N]

Prerequisite: None

Total Hours: 4 hours lecture; 4 hours lab (8 hours total)

Catalog Description: Successful completion of this course satisfies the requirements established by Title 30 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 250, Subpart O, for floorhand training. The course is intended for drilling floorhands. This course is designed to provide a working understanding of well control and the problems normally associated with pressure control. This course is offered on a Pass/No Pass basis only.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit


Additional Required Instructional Materials: None

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to

1. perform hydrostatic pressure calculations,
2. discuss formation pressure and sources,
3. signs and causes of kicks,
4. perform shut-in procedures,
5. correctly operate blowout prevention (BOP) equipment, and
6. identify and mitigate potential circumstances.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I Introduction and Registration
A. Course introduction
B. Complete student registration

Unit II Reservoir and Drive Systems
A. Description of oil reservoir zones
B. Description of free flow, steam, and water flood reservoir drive systems

Unit III Reasons for Well Workover
A. Production enhancement
B. Repair surface and downhole deficiencies
C. Well stimulation for lost production

Unit IV Well Workover Safety
A. Well site hazards
B. Rig and appurtenance hazards
C. Location hazards
Unit V  Well Bore Fluid Columns  
A.  Functions of drilling fluids  
B.  Functions of completion and workover fluids  
C.  Fluid types  
D.  Fluid properties  

Unit VI  Hydrostatic Pressure and Gradients  
A.  Hydrostatic pressure definition and calculations  
B.  Gradient definition and calculations  

Unit VII  Well Kicks  
A.  Kicks defined  
B.  Conditions necessary for a kick to occur  
C.  Causes of kicks while drilling  
D.  Causes of kicks while tripping  

Unit VIII  Warning Signs of Kicks at Various Stages  
A.  Warning signs while drilling  
B.  Warning signs while tripping  

Unit IX  Shut-in Procedures  
A.  Surface stack drilling  
B.  Surface stack tripping  

Unit X  Blowout Prevention (BOP) Equipment  
A.  Basic stack design criteria  
B.  Types of BOP equipment  
C.  Safety valves  

Unit XI  Auxiliary Equipment  
A.  Accumulators  

Unit XII  Kill Methods  
A.  Drillers’ methods  
B.  Wait and weight methods  
C.  Volumetric method  

Unit XIII  Summary and Review  
A.  Revisit all material  
B.  Review major definitions, calculations, and practices  

Unit XIV  Training for Floorhand  
A.  Testing  

Lab Content:  
1.  Practical hands-on exercises for shut-in wells using a BOP simulator  
2.  Practice calculations from scenarios using simulators and computers  

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:  None  

Methods of Instruction:  
1.  Lecture/Discussion  
2.  Practical hands-on exercises
Methods of Evaluation:
1. Written exam
2. Performance observation of student operation