



Steam Turbines, Gas Turbines, and Combined-Cycle Power Plants

16 – 20 November 2026
Rome (Italy)



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Introduction

This course on Steam Turbines, Gas Turbines, and Combined-Cycle Power Plants provides an understanding of modern power generation technologies, with a focus on the field. It explores the fundamental principles underlying the conversion of thermal energy into mechanical and electrical energy in large-scale industrial systems. Participants gain insights into the operational behavior of turbine systems under varying load conditions and efficiency demands. The program examines the integration of heat recovery systems and their role in enhancing overall plant performance. It highlights key engineering concepts related to thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, and energy systems. Learners develop a solid foundation in power plant operation, design logic, and performance optimization strategies.

Targeted Groups

This Steam Turbines, Gas Turbines, and Combined-Cycle Power Plants training targets professionals seeking knowledge and skills:

- Power plant engineers working in thermal and gas-based facilities.
- Mechanical engineers are involved in turbine design and operation.
- Electrical engineers in power generation and grid integration.
- Maintenance technicians are responsible for turbine reliability systems.
- Energy sector professionals focused on efficiency improvement.
- Technical supervisors in industrial power production plants.
- Engineering students specializing in energy and power systems.

Course Objectives

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the Steam Turbines, Gas Turbines, and Combined-Cycle Power Plants course:

- Understand the principles of energy conversion in steam turbines and gas turbines used in modern power generation systems.
- Analyze the operational characteristics of thermal power plants and combined-cycle configurations to improve efficiency.
- Evaluate the role of thermodynamic cycles in optimizing electricity production and reducing fuel consumption.
- Identify key components of turbines, including blades, rotors, compressors, and heat exchangers.
- Develop knowledge of combined cycle power plants and heat recovery steam generator systems.
- Interpret performance data to enhance operational reliability and system output.
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Understand safety considerations and operational constraints in high-pressure turbine environments.

- Apply theoretical knowledge to improve plant efficiency and reduce operational losses.

Targeted Competencies

Participants will gain the following competencies during the Steam Turbines, Gas Turbines, and Combined-Cycle Power Plants program:

- Interpret turbine performance curves and operational parameters in power generation systems.
- Competence in analyzing steam turbine and gas turbine efficiency under different load conditions.
- Understand combined-cycle integration and the operation of heat-recovery steam generators.
- Skills in identifying system inefficiencies and proposing optimization strategies.
- Knowledge of thermodynamic cycle applications in industrial power plants.
- Ability to evaluate equipment performance using theoretical engineering principles.
- Awareness of operational risks and mitigation techniques in turbine-based systems.

Studying Scenarios

In this Steam Turbines, Gas Turbines, and Combined-Cycle Power Plants training, participants develop skills through the following scenarios:

- Analysis of steam turbine startup and shutdown procedures under varying load demands.
- Evaluation of gas turbine performance during peak electricity generation periods.
- Examination of combined cycle power plant efficiency improvements using heat recovery systems.
- Troubleshooting reduced output scenarios in thermal power plant operations.
- Assessment of turbine vibration and temperature deviations in operational environments.

Course Content

Unit 1: Fundamentals of Power Generation Systems

- Introduction to power generation systems and energy conversion principles in modern plants.
- Overview of thermal power plant structures and their operational configurations.
- Basic thermodynamics applied to steam turbines and gas turbine systems.
- Understanding energy flow from fuel combustion to electrical output generation.
- Role of mechanical and electrical integration in large-scale power systems.
- Overview of turbine-based electricity production and efficiency factors.
- Classification of power plants, including thermal, gas, and combined cycle systems.
- Introduction to industrial standards and operational safety principles in power generation.

Unit 2: Steam Turbines Technology and Operation

- Working principles of steam turbines in electricity generation systems.
- Steam cycle operation and the role of high-pressure and low-pressure stages.
- Blade design and rotor dynamics influencing turbine performance.
- Steam quality, pressure control, and temperature regulation mechanisms.
- Condenser systems and their impact on efficiency and heat rejection.
- Load variation handling and operational stability in steam turbine plants.
- Efficiency losses and common operational challenges in steam turbines.
- Maintenance principles and reliability considerations for steam-based systems.

Unit 3: Gas Turbine Systems and Performance

- Fundamentals of gas turbine operation and Brayton cycle applications.
- Compressor, combustion chamber, and turbine section interactions.
- Fuel-air mixture control and combustion efficiency optimization.
- Temperature control strategies in high-performance gas turbines.
- Emission control and environmental impact of gas turbine systems.
- Performance factors affecting power output and thermal efficiency.
- Startup procedures and operational response under dynamic loads.
- Maintenance strategies for improving gas turbine reliability and lifespan.

Unit 4: Combined Cycle Power Plants and HRSG Integration

- Concept and configuration of combined cycle power plants in energy systems.
- Integration of gas turbines with steam turbines for enhanced efficiency.
- Heat recovery steam generator HRSG functionality and heat utilization.
- Energy recycling principles and waste heat recovery mechanisms.
- Operational coordination between gas and steam turbine sections.
- Efficiency improvements through combined cycle optimization techniques.
- Load balancing and performance distribution in hybrid power systems.
- Challenges in system integration and operational synchronization.

Unit 5: Performance Optimization and Maintenance in Power Plants

- Performance monitoring techniques for turbine-based power generation systems.
- Efficiency improvement methods for steam turbines and gas turbines.
- Condition-based maintenance and predictive diagnostics in power plants.
- Vibration analysis and thermal stress monitoring in rotating equipment.
- Troubleshooting common operational failures in turbine systems.
- Reliability engineering principles applied to power generation facilities.
- Optimization of fuel consumption and reduction of operational losses.
- Long-term asset management strategies for power plant sustainability.



Final Insights & Key Takeaways

Understanding steam turbines, gas turbines, and combined cycle power plants is essential for achieving high-efficiency power generation in modern energy systems. Mastery of these technologies enables improved operational reliability, optimized fuel usage, and enhanced system performance across industrial power plants.