

ASSP-NC Education Committee Knowledge Sharing Series (KSS)



Safety Courses and Certification: The Misconception

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Introduction:

A course is a series of classes or lessons aimed at teaching a specific subject or skill. It typically involves a schedule of instruction, assignments, and assessments designed to help learners achieve a set of learning objectives. Courses can be offered in various formats, including online, in-person, or a combination of both, and may be taken for academic credit or personal development.

Introduction contd:

Safety courses are designed to educate individuals on best practices in preventing accidents, injuries, or deaths in workplaces or other environments. These courses typically cover a range of topics related to safety, including but not limited to hazard identification, risk assessment, and emergency response procedures.

Introduction contd:

They may also address specific industry-specific safety issues, such as construction site safety, electrical safety, or chemical safety. Safety courses can be geared towards individuals, employees, or companies and can be delivered in a variety of formats, including online courses, classroom instruction, or hands-on training. The ultimate goal of safety courses is to help eliminate workplace accidents and injuries, saving lives, time, and resources.

HSE Training / Courses:

A health, safety and environment course could be long or short depending on the curriculum such as:

- 💡 A Bachelors degree in any field (industrial hygiene, occupational health, etc.)
- 💡 A Masters degree in any field (Safety and Risk Management, etc.)
- 💡 A Doctorate degree in field (Occupational safety and health, ergonomics, etc.)
- 💡 And any other specialized such as GHSE, HSE Level 1, 2 and 3, Nebosh Certificates, Nebosh Diplomas, NVQ Certificates and Diplomas, ProQual Certificates and Diplomas, Universities Certificates and PgDs, CQI-IRCA Certified ISO 45001: 2018, ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 Auditor / Lead Auditor Course

Certifications:

Certification refers to the process of providing formal recognition or attestation that a person, product, service, or system has met certain predetermined standards or requirements. Certification is usually provided by an independent third-party organization or agency and typically involves an assessment, an examination, or an evaluation of the applicant's knowledge, skills, or competence. Certification can apply to a wide range of fields, such as education, healthcare, IT, finance, construction, safety and many others. The purpose of certification is to ensure quality, consistency, and accountability in the respective field or profession and to provide a standard of excellence that can be recognized by employers, clients, and the public.

Certifications / Membership:

For instance, you read Electrical Electronics Engineering which is a course of study, not certification and so you cannot be addressed as an engineer. To be a Registered Engineer in Nigeria, you need to apply to NSE or COREN to be certified (R.Engr or CEng) after meeting the requirements among which could be your B.Tech. / B.Eng. or MTech / MEng degree and 4 years of working experience in an engineering field.

Certifications / Membership:

The same or similar process may apply in getting safety certifications and membership that will authenticates and validates your skills and experiences such as:

- 💡 Member ASSP, Professional Member ASSP, Fellow Member ASSP
- 💡 Certified Safety Profession (CSP)
- 💡 Technical Member IOSH, Certified Member IOSH, Chartered Member IOSH
- 💡 Chartered Fellow IOSH
- 💡 CQI / IRCA OH&S Provisional Auditor
- 💡 Member of the Safety and Reliability Society (SaRS)

Comparison Between Certificates and Certification

Certificates:

1. Course certificates are suitable for beginners or fresh graduates in the safety career and anyone who wants to get into health and safety
2. Individuals can obtain a certificate after attending a training course
3. The content of the course is based on training objectives
4. The course certificate name is usually mentioned in the study or training
5. Individuals who attend courses usually stop learning after they get it
6. This course certificate can be an entrance to higher academic studies or degrees

Comparison Between Certificates and Certification

Certifications:

1. It requires practical experience to obtain it
2. Individuals can get it after an evaluation process
3. Certification means you have attained certain level of competence and experience
4. Certification means you have acquired a list of industry best practices
5. Getting certified means you can add a Post-nominal letters after your name
6. Holder of certification always undergoes through continuous process of learning and sharing after obtaining the certification

Questions?



Resources:

Thank You.