



Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza · 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028 · Pretoria, Gauteng · South Africa

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COURSE BROCHURE

International Polygraphy Trends and Ethics Research

Law, Military Science and Security / Safety in Society

Unit Standard 252158 · NQF Level 5 · 10 Credits · 7 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course equips polygraph professionals with the ability to research and critically evaluate international trends in polygraphy, including emerging technologies and ethical frameworks. Learners will examine ethical issues specific to South African and global contexts, ensuring that their practice aligns with evolving standards and legal requirements. The course prepares practitioners to contribute to the advancement of the field through informed, ethical decision-making.

Category	Law, Military Science and Security
Subfield	Safety in Society
Unit Standard	252158
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 5 · 10 Credits
Duration	7 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Research and analyze current international trends in polygraphy, including technological advancements and methodological innovations.
- Evaluate ethical issues and dilemmas in polygraph practice, applying relevant codes of conduct and legal frameworks.
- Compare and contrast polygraph standards and practices across different countries and cultural contexts.
- Assess the impact of emerging technologies (e.g., computerized polygraphs, voice stress analysis) on the validity and reliability of polygraph testing.
- Develop strategies to address ethical challenges such as informed consent, confidentiality, and bias in polygraph examinations.
- Design a research proposal or policy recommendation that integrates international best practices and ethical considerations.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- This course is designed for polygraph examiners, forensic investigators, and ethics officers who need to stay abreast of global developments in polygraphy and navigate complex ethical dilemmas.
- It is also suitable for managers overseeing polygraph units and researchers in forensic psychology.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Foundations of Polygraphy and International Standards

- History of polygraphy: from early instruments to modern computerised systems.
- Overview of international polygraph organisations (APA, AAPP, EAPP, SA Polygraph Association).
- Core ethical principles: informed consent, confidentiality, voluntary participation.
- Introduction to the SAQA unit standard 252158 and its requirements.
- Comparison of legal frameworks across countries (USA, UK, Europe, South Africa).
- The role of polygraphy in criminal justice, national security, and corporate settings.
- Common misconceptions and media portrayal of polygraph testing.
- Ethical dilemmas in polygraphy: bias, coercion, and misuse.

Day 2: Research Methodologies in Polygraphy

- Research design: experimental, quasi-experimental, and observational studies.
- Key dependent measures: electrodermal, cardiovascular, respiratory, and movement sensors.
- Statistical concepts: sensitivity, specificity, false positives, false negatives.
- Meta-analyses and systematic reviews of polygraph accuracy.
- Laboratory vs. field research: strengths and limitations.
- Ethical considerations in polygraph research (human subjects protection).
- Current research trends: neuroimaging, voice stress analysis, and ocular motor measures.
- Critiquing published studies: common pitfalls and biases.

Day 3: International Trends in Polygraph Techniques

- Comparison of testing formats: pre-employment, specific issue, and periodic testing.
- Questioning techniques: Relevant-Irrelevant (RI), Control Question Test (CQT), Directed Lie Test (DLT).
- The Zone Comparison Technique (ZCT) and its variants.
- The Concealed Information Test (CIT) – theory and international adoption.
- Computerised scoring algorithms: advantages and limitations.
- Emerging technologies: functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS), thermal imaging.
- Portable polygraph systems and field deployment.
- International differences: the UK's approach to polygraphy for sex offender management.

Day 4: Ethical Frameworks and Professional Conduct

- Ethical theories: deontology, utilitarianism, virtue ethics.
- APA and EAPP codes of ethics: principles and rules.
- Informed consent: elements, documentation, and exceptions.
- Confidentiality and data protection (POPIA in South Africa).
- Dual relationships and conflicts of interest.
- Handling vulnerable populations (minors, mentally ill, non-native speakers).
- Whistleblowing and reporting misconduct.
- Case studies: ethical breaches and their repercussions.

Day 5: Cross-Cultural and Legal Considerations

- Cultural biases in polygraph testing: language, norms, and emotional expression.
- Legal status of polygraph evidence: USA (Daubert standard), UK, Europe, South Africa.
- The South African Law Reform Commission and polygraph admissibility.
- Polygraphy in workplace investigations: labour law and CCMA rulings.
- Human rights considerations: right to silence, privacy, and dignity.

- Use of polygraphy in immigration and asylum cases.
- Adapting protocols for non-English speakers and deaf individuals.
- International case law: key judgments shaping polygraph practice.

Day 6: Contemporary Issues and Future Directions

- The post-truth era: polygraphy and misinformation.
- AI-driven analysis: automated deception detection and its challenges.
- Neuroethics: brain-based lie detection and privacy concerns.
- The replication crisis in psychology and its relevance to polygraph research.
- Public perception and trust in polygraph results.
- Integration with other investigative tools: statement analysis, forensic interviewing.
- Professionalisation of polygraphy: certification, continuing education, and specialisation.
- Future scenarios: wearable sensors, real-time monitoring, and ethical boundaries.

Day 7: Synthesis, Application, and Assessment

- Review and consolidation of key concepts.
- Group case study analysis: ethical dilemmas and research design.
- Developing a personal code of ethics and professional development plan.
- Strategies for staying current: journals, conferences, and networks.
- Open forum: emerging trends and participant questions.
- Course evaluation and feedback.
- Guidance on unit standard 252158 assessment requirements.
- Resources for further learning: books, articles, and online courses.

ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Delegates are assessed through exercises and a final test. A mark of **50% or above** earns an **AATICD Certificate of Completion**, issued digitally with a unique verification code. This course carries **10 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 5**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 29,600.00	R 29,600.00
1	In-House	R 38,500.00	R 38,500.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 44,400.00	R 44,400.00

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Start	End	Method	Venue
10 Aug 2026	18 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Abu Dhabi, UAE
11 Aug 2026	19 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Durban, South Africa
11 Aug 2026	19 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Mauritius
12 Aug 2026	20 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Cape Town, South Africa
13 Aug 2026	21 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Dubai, UAE
14 Aug 2026	24 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Pretoria, South Africa
17 Aug 2026	25 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Durban, South Africa
18 Aug 2026	26 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Shenzhen, China

Contact us if no suitable date is listed – on-demand sessions can be arranged for groups.

HOW TO GET A QUOTE OR APPLY

1. **Get an instant quotation online:** visit www.aaticd.co.za, open the page for this course (Unit Standard 252158) and click **Get A Quote / Apply**. Select your training method and number of delegates – your quotation is generated immediately and emailed to you with the course brochure attached.
2. **Apply by email:** send the course title, your preferred training method (Online, In-House or On-Campus Pretoria), the number of delegates and your preferred dates to apply@aaticd.co.za – our team will reply with a formal quotation.
3. **Apply by phone or WhatsApp:** call +27 12 004 8389 or WhatsApp +27 65 077 6310 and we will prepare your quotation and reserve your seats.
4. **Confirm your booking:** accept the quotation and settle the invoice. As soon as payment is confirmed your delegates are enrolled and receive their AATICD LMS login details by email, along with joining instructions for their chosen training method.

Group discounts apply automatically – the more delegates you enrol, the lower the price per delegate. No payment is required to request a quotation.

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