TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME 01

Discover the TCF approach to learning cosmetic science, where complex concepts become clear, practical and accessible.

MEET YOUR TEACHER 02

Meet Ashleigh, founder of TCF, and discover the science-led philosophy and passion behind our approach to cosmetic education.

WHY FOUNDATION KNOWLEDGE MATTERS 03

Understand why ingredient science, safety and regulations are essential to making informed formulation decisions.

WHO THIS PROGRAMME IS FOR 04

Discover who this course is designed for and how it supports your cosmetic formulation goals.

COURSE CURRICULUM 05

Explore the essential science behind cosmetic ingredients, safety, regulations, preservation and responsible manufacturing.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LEARNING EXPERIENCE 06

Discover our clear, engaging teaching approach and the resources designed to make complex science easier to understand.

LEARNING OUTCOMES 07

Explore the essential scientific knowledge and practical understanding you'll develop throughout the course.

COURSE FEES 08

Explore our affordable course investment and everything included with your enrolment.

ENROLMENT INFORMATION 09

Take the next step towards understanding cosmetic science and learning to think like a formulator.



Welcome

Real cosmetic science. Made simple.

Anyone can follow a cosmetic recipe. But understanding why ingredients are used, how they interact and what makes a product safe and effective takes real formulation knowledge.

At The Cosmetic Formulator, we believe learning cosmetic science should be clear, accessible and genuinely enjoyable, without sacrificing scientific credibility.

Our Foundations of Cosmetic Formulation & Ingredient Safety course introduces the essential ingredient science, safety principles and regulatory knowledge behind responsible cosmetic formulation.

Through straightforward explanations and an evidence-led approach to natural and synthetic ingredients, you'll learn to look beyond recipes and make more informed decisions.

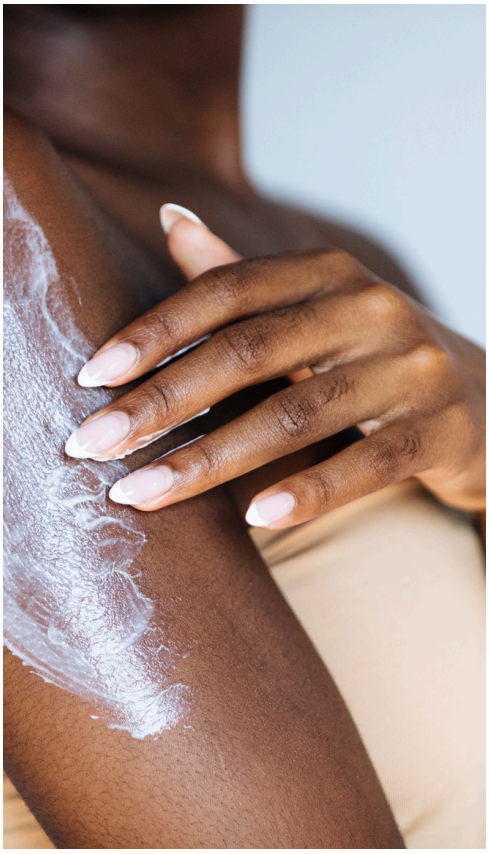
Because great formulation starts with understanding the science.







Why Foundation Knowledge Matters



Behind every successful cosmetic formula is more than a collection of ingredients. Professional formulators understand the science behind their decisions.

That includes:

- What different ingredients contribute to a formula.
- How ingredients interact and influence performance.
- Ingredient safety, limitations and restrictions.
- Why preservation and contamination control matter.
- How to find reliable scientific and regulatory information.
- Their responsibilities when developing cosmetic products.



Without this understanding, it's easy to rely on guesswork, make unsuitable ingredient choices or encounter avoidable formulation problems.

Foundations helps you develop the knowledge to approach cosmetic science with greater confidence. Don't just learn what goes into a formula. Understand why it's there.

ABOUT ME

Hello, I'm Ashleigh, a cosmetic chemist based in the UK and founder of The Cosmetic Formulator. I created TCF because I believe everyone passionate about cosmetic formulation deserves access to credible, practical and affordable scientific education. My goal is to make complex cosmetic science easier to understand and genuinely enjoyable to learn, without unnecessary academic complexity.





ASHLEIGH ELIZABETH

Cosmetic Chemist

The beauty industry is full of misleading claims about ingredients, particularly natural versus synthetic materials. I believe good formulation should be guided by science, not fear or marketing trends. Through TCF, I want to help you understand ingredients, make informed decisions and develop the confidence to think like a formulator. Real science. No scaremongering. No unnecessary restrictions.

Our Educational Philosophy

Serious Science. Straightforward Teaching.

Cosmetic science can be complicated. Learning it doesn't have to be.
At TCF, we make important scientific concepts easier to understand through clear explanations and practical examples.

Our Think Like a Formulator approach encourages you to understand why ingredients are chosen, rather than simply memorising recipes.

Before developing more complex products, you'll explore:

- Cosmetic legislation and regulations.
- Essential ingredient chemistry.
- Ingredient functions and identification.
- Safety documentation and responsible use.
- Professional formulation terminology.
- Good Manufacturing Practice.
- Preservation and microbiological risks.
- Evidence-led ingredient selection.

We believe great education should be credible, engaging and genuinely useful.

Our goal isn't to create recipe followers. It's to develop knowledgeable, independent formulators.



Who This Programme Is Designed For

Foundations is designed for anyone who wants to understand the science behind cosmetic formulation without feeling overwhelmed by complicated chemistry. This course is ideal if you:

- Are completely new to cosmetic formulation.
- Want a clear, science-led introduction.
- Have followed recipes but want to understand why they work.
- Want to learn about natural and synthetic ingredients.
- Find INCI names or CAS numbers confusing.
- Want to understand cosmetic safety and regulations.
- Formulate cosmetics for personal use.
- Plan to develop products professionally.
- Are considering launching a beauty brand.
- Value evidence, safety and informed ingredient choices.







No previous chemistry knowledge is required.

What to Expect From This Course



Start With Understanding. Build Towards Creating. Foundations focuses on the essential science behind responsible cosmetic formulation. Rather than teaching you to copy a collection of recipes, this course helps you understand ingredients, safety information and the principles behind professional formulation decisions. You'll learn:



- How cosmetic ingredients are identified (natural vs synthetic).
- Where to find reliable scientific information.
- How ingredient safety is evaluated.
- Why cosmetic regulations matter.
- The principles of preservation and hygiene.



Advanced product development is covered in our specialist formulation certificates. This course is about learning the right things first, so you can approach more advanced formulation with confidence.

No previous chemistry knowledge is required.







Why We Do Not Begin With Water-Based Products

Why We Start With the Science: Creating creams, lotions and cleansers involves more than combining ingredients.

Water-containing cosmetics introduce important safety and formulation considerations, including:

- Microbiological contamination.
- Preservation systems.
- pH management.
- Emulsion stability.
- Ingredient compatibility.
- Shelf-life considerations.
- Manufacturing hygiene.

These subjects require proper scientific understanding and shouldn't be reduced to simple recipes.

That's why Foundations introduces the essential principles behind ingredient safety, preservation and responsible formulation before you progress into more complex products.

Once you've developed this knowledge, you'll be better prepared to explore specialist subjects such as:

- Emulsions and gels.
- Surfactant systems.
- Preservation and pH.
- Stability and product development.

Module One

Introduction to Cosmetic Products & Ingredients

This opening module introduces the language and science of cosmetic formulation.

Topics include:

- What legally defines a cosmetic product
- History and evolution of cosmetic formulation
- Types of cosmetic ingredients
- Ingredient functionality
- Understanding formulation terminology
- Reading ingredient declarations
- Understanding CAS numbers
- Understanding INCI nomenclature
- Introduction to the CosIng database
- Ingredient sourcing
- Natural versus synthetic ingredients
- Ingredient classifications (natural, naturally derived, synthetic)
- Organic cosmetic standards
- COSMOS certification
- ECOCERT standards

By the end of this module learners will confidently identify cosmetic ingredients and understand how professional formulators classify them.



Module Two

Compliance & Safe Handling of Cosmetic Ingredients

Safety and regulatory compliance are essential components of professional formulation.

This module teaches learners how to work responsibly with cosmetic ingredients through an introduction to:

- Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and how to read them.
- Safe ingredient storage.
- Laboratory safety.
- Personal protective equipment.
- Hazard communication.
- Ingredient documentation.
- Scientific information sources.
- Regulatory resources.
- Ingredient restrictions.
- Regional legislation.
- Allergens versus irritants.
- Understanding IFRA Standards.
- Safe fragrance usage.
- Essential oil limitations.
- Responsible ingredient selection.

This module addresses one of the most significant knowledge gaps found within beginner cosmetic education.



Module Three

Preservation Principles, Microbiological Risk, Good Manufacturing Practice & pH

This module introduces the foundations of microbiology within cosmetic formulation, including preservation principles, microbiological risk, Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and pH. It helps learners understand how these factors relate to product safety and responsible cosmetic formulation. Introducing these concepts early in your formulation journey helps prevent common beginner mistakes that could compromise product safety.

Topics include:

- Introduction to Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP).
- Preventing contamination.
- Hygiene during formulation.
- Product safety throughout manufacture.
- Understanding microbiological risk.
- Differences between anhydrous and water-based formulations.
- Why preservation matters.
- The responsibilities of cosmetic formulators.
- Product quality and consumer safety.

Learners finish this module with a clear understanding of why preservation and microbiological control is an essential part of formulation.



Learning Resources

Learning Designed to Make Science Make Sense. Great education should make complex subjects easier to understand, not more intimidating.

Foundations combines clear, structured lessons with useful resources that help you build knowledge at your own pace. Your enrolment includes:

- Comprehensive PDF course manuals.
- Professionally written lessons.
- Clear scientific explanations.
- Real world formulation examples.
- Interactive knowledge quizzes.
- Downloadable reference documents.
- Scientific learning resources.
- Lifetime access to course materials.

Our resources are designed to help you understand the science and provide valuable references as your formulation knowledge develops. Professional knowledge, made accessible.



Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme you will be able to:

- Explain what constitutes a cosmetic product.
- Understand the purpose of common cosmetic ingredients.
- Read and interpret INCI names confidently.
- Interpret CAS numbers correctly.
- Navigate the CosIng database effectively.
- Differentiate between natural, naturally derived and synthetic ingredients.
- Understand cosmetic ingredient classifications.
- Read and interpret Safety Data Sheets.
- Apply safe ingredient handling practices.
- Understand allergen and irritancy considerations.
- Use IFRA Standards appropriately.
- Locate reliable scientific and regulatory information.
- Understand Good Manufacturing Practice principles.
- Recognise microbiological risks in cosmetic products.
- Make informed formulation decisions based on science rather than assumption.
- Progress confidently to advanced cosmetic formulation training.

Teaching Approach

Don't Just Learn the Facts. Think Like a Formulator.

Following a recipe teaches you how to make one product. Understanding formulation helps you make informed decisions when developing your own.

At TCF, our Think Like a Formulator approach encourages you to ask:

- Why is this ingredient used?
- What function does it perform?
- Is it suitable for the product?
- What safety considerations apply?
- Is its use compliant?
- What scientific evidence supports the decision?

These questions help you develop the critical thinking skills behind professional formulation. We don't just want you to follow formulas. We want you to understand them.



Progression Pathway

Completion of this programme provides the knowledge base required before progressing to more advanced studies, including:

- Emulsion formulation
- Creams and lotions
- Cosmetic bars and soaps
- Scrubs, masks and polishes
- Surfactant chemistry
- Cleansing products
- Preservation systems
- pH adjustment
- Stability testing
- Product development
- Advanced formulation techniques

By following this structured pathway, learners develop confidence alongside competence.



Course Investment

🇬🇧 £147 GBP
🇺🇸 $197 USD
🇪🇺 €175 EUR
🇦🇺 A$285 AUD
🇨🇦 C$280 CAD

Your enrolment includes:

- Complete access to all course lessons.
- Downloadable PDF learning materials.
- Interactive knowledge quizzes.
- Professional reference resources.
- Lifetime access to course materials.

Foundations offers affordable access to credible, science-led cosmetic education without the complexity or commitment of an extensive academic programme.

Develop the essential understanding behind ingredient safety, responsible formulation and informed decision-making.

Real cosmetic science. Made simple.



A Professional Beginning

Every Exceptional Formula Starts With Understanding.

Anyone can follow a recipe. But knowing why ingredients are used, how they interact and what makes a product safe and effective requires real formulation knowledge. Foundations has been created to make that knowledge accessible. Whether you're learning for personal interest, developing products for your own beauty brand or preparing for more advanced formulation training, this course gives you a scientific foundation to build upon.

Don't just follow recipes. **Learn to think like a formulator.**

Your journey into professional cosmetic science starts here.

