

Name:

Inga Ploomipuu

Job title:

Lecturer, Tartu Health Care College

Career:

I graduated high school in 1995, after that, I started my chemistry studies at the University of Tartu (UT). After graduating my bachelor's studies in chemistry, I went to study chemistry teaching (teachers' papers were gained with one year). At the same time, I also went to work for the Epler & Lorenz Company, which is focusing on hazardous waste management. I went to work there because I thought I could not teach and I never will be a teacher. I worked as a chemist in Epler & Lorenz for half a year, and after that, I focused on gaining a teaching career

Responsibilities:

- Based on the job description
- Teaching students (lectures, seminars, practicums)
- To conduct learning outcomes in my subjects
- Legislation (reporting)- preparing documents and updating my subjects' curricula
- Participation in projects
- Implementation of applied research (conducting research directions creating research projects – some graduation thesis will be completed from there)
-

Essential skills in my job:

- Developing study materials
- Leadership skills
- Project management and compilation- budgeting
- Learning ability and adaptability
- Hard-working (especially in the earlier period when all the teaching materials had to be created on my own)
- Communication skills (from a teachers' and lecturers point of view- how to encourage students to learn)
- Presentation skills
- Practical skills
- Cooperation skills
- The ability to interpret legislation (laws)
- Project writing skills

What I need to know in my job:

- Professional knowledge- such as basic knowledge of chemistry
- Knowledge and naming of different substances (this knowledge is strongly needed)
- Organic chemistry in modern treatment
- Knowledge acquired on pedagogy
- Factual knowledge
- General chemical safety- precautions



This project has received funding from the *European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme* under grant agreement No 665100.



Lecturer, Inga Ploomipuu, Tartu Health Care College

I graduated high school in 1995, after that, I started my chemistry studies at the University of Tartu (UT). I also considered psychology, but I decided against it because there was already a big competition. I did not want to study the economy or law because all graduated students wanted to study these specialties. The opportunity to get into UT and to study chemistry came from my good results in Science Olympiad and that is why I did not have to do the entrance exam.

After graduating my bachelor's studies in chemistry, I went to study chemistry teaching (teachers' papers were gained with one year). At the same time, I also went to work for the Epler & Lorenz company, what is focusing on hazardous waste management. I went to work there because I thought I could not teach and I never will be a teacher. In, Epler & Lorenz I worked as a chemist and probably I was the first chemist there. I think that because there was no understanding what exactly the chemist should do and what was expected of me – the tasks were dimly dispersed. My job tasks, for example, was to take oil analysis (ash content, determination of sulphur content, etc.). I worked as a chemist in Epler & Lorenz for half a year, and after that, I focused on gaining a teaching career.

In the acquisition of teacher training as a chemist teacher, I also attended a 10-week internship at a general education school (Miina Härma Gymnasium). I taught chemistry in both middle and secondary school level. I graduated the master program (chemistry) in the field of environment and food chemistry in 2006. After that, I received a job offer from the Tartu Health Care College, where the lecturer with a chemistry background was needed, for health specialist curriculum.

Since 2002, I have been involved with the Tartu Health Care College. I work there as a lecturer, giving lectures, seminars, and practicums for example to future health specialists and biomedical scientists.