

Employability:  
Preparing students for the 21<sup>st</sup>  
Century workplace

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- Natural England – access to field areas

# Aims

Employability – what this means in the  
classroom

Environmental Site Investigation Methods  
module

Outcomes

# Employability

- Preparing students for the workplace
  - not training – impossible given range of potential jobs
- What jobs will students be doing in 2021 and beyond?
- How are they best going to be prepared for this?



# Employability

Discussions with employers, staff and students

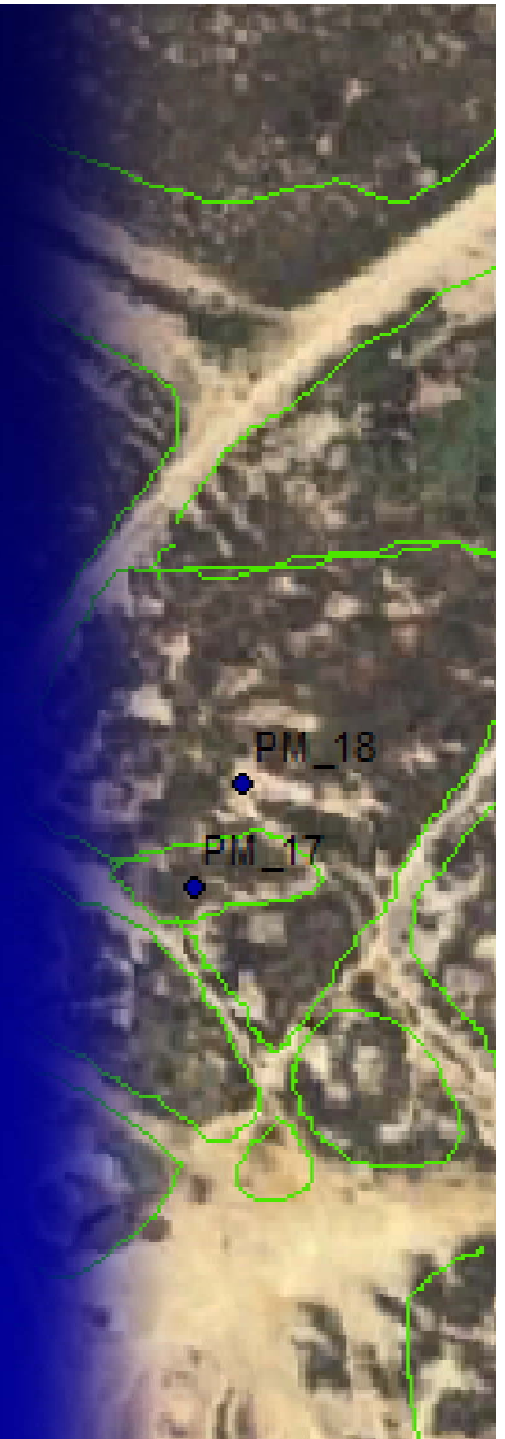
Communication skills

IT skills

Mathematical skills

Subject specific knowledge

Working practices\*



# Site Investigation module

## 2 parts – Emulating industry practice

### 1) Desk study

Review existing work and data – at Leicester  
GIS

Plan fieldwork

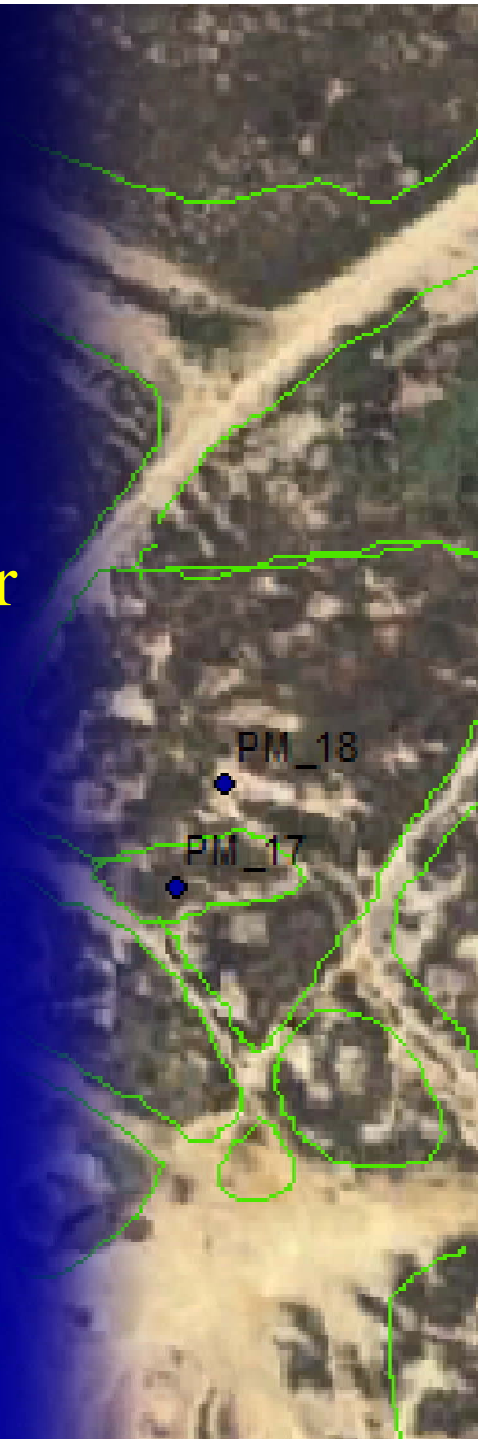
Preliminary report – formative assessment

### 2) Field study

Fieldwork – GIS to digital mapping

Data evaluation and integration

Report - summative assessment



# Desk Study

- Fieldwork module
- Lab exercise:
  - Gather data/maps compile GIS etc
  - Plan survey
  - Short report

# Field exercise

- Digital geological mapping
- Sample collecting
- Geophysical data acquisition





# BGS Sigma Mobile Software

Software Download from BGS website

Software requirements:

MS Access

ArcGIS 9.2

Hardware requirements:

Tablet PC or similar

MS Windows mobile OS



# Learning materials for digital mapping

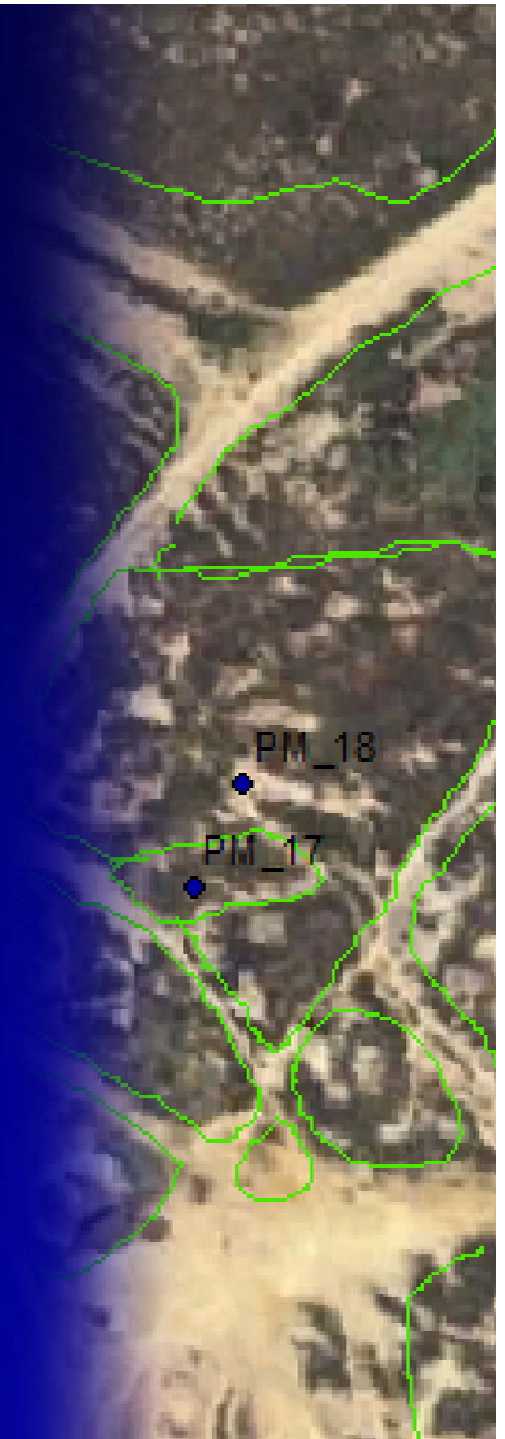
- Guide for Academic staff – also need training!
- Quick start Guide for students
- Introductory lecture
- Laboratory exercise
- Field exercises
- Assessment

Shortly available from SPLINT CETL website  
<http://www.le.ac.uk/gg/splint/>



# 'Field' Exercise

- Integrate field data with lab. study
- Final report – used by following year





# Outcomes

- Simulation of workplace practice
- IT and report writing skills
- Teamwork
- Subject specific knowledge
- Student engagement in data collection process

