

ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (MSc/PgDip/PgCert)

57C900B1/61C900VX/62C910VZ

Duration: 12 months full-time (MSc); 9 months full-time (PgDip); 4 months full time (PgCert). 24 months part-time (MSc); 18 months part-time (PgDip); 8 months part time (PgCert).

Content: Candidates must attend the following designated programme of courses unless they have previously passed courses deemed by the Programme Co-ordinator to be equivalent to one or more of the specified courses, in which case another course must be taken with approval from the Programme Co-ordinator. Candidates must take a minimum of 120 credit points of courses from the compulsory and elective courses in stages 1 and 2.

FULL TIME ROUTE

Stage 1

Compulsory courses:

- BI5009 Experimental Design and Analysis (15 credit points)
- EV5402 Introduction to GIS (7.5 credit points)
- PL5001 Plant Ecology (15 credit points)
- ZO5304 Population Ecology (15 credit points)

Plus 7.5-22.5 credit points from the following list of elective courses:

- BI5010 Statistics for Complex Study Designs (7.5 credit points)
- BI5401 Introduction to Bayesian Inference (7.5 credit points)
- EK5003 Introduction to Ecological Field Research in Northern Scotland (7.5 credit points)
- EK5405 Molecular Ecological Techniques (7.5 credit points)
- SS5305 Soils for Food Security (15 credit points)
- ZO5303 Aquaculture (7.5 credit points)
- ZO5009 Marine Conservation Management (15 credit points) (this is a full year course)

Stage 2:

Compulsory course:

- EK5805 Research Project Planning (7.5 credit points)

Plus 37.5–60 credit points from the following list of elective courses:

- ZO5009 Marine Conservation Management (continued from Stage 1)
- BI5702 Readings in Ecology, Conservation and Environment (7.5 credit points)
- EK5804 Environmental Impact Assessment (15 credit points)
- EK5510 Ecology, Conservation and Society (15 credit points)
- EK5511 Catchment Management (15 credit points)
- EK5806 Applied Forest Ecology (15 credit points)
- EV5511 Spatial Information Analysis (7.5 credit points)
- EK5704 Advanced Modelling for Ecology and Conservation (15 credit points)
- EV5801 Environmental Management Plan (15 credit points)
- ZO5508 Marine Spatial Management and Top Predators (15 credit point)

Final Stage (Stage 3)

- EK5907 Project in Ecology and Conservation (60 credit points)

PART-TIME ROUTE

This route will run over two years minimum. Candidates can take up to 120 credit points in an academic year.

Candidates must take a minimum of 120 credit points of courses including all the compulsory courses and a selection of the elective courses in stages 1 and 2 (listed above) plus the 60 credit research project EK5907.

BI5009 Experimental Design and Analysis must be taken in Year 1.

EK5907 Project in Ecology and Conservation must be registered for in Year 2. However the work for Project in Ecology and Conservation may be split between Years 1 and 2.

EK5805 Research Project Planning is normally taken in Year 2 but must be completed before work on EK5907 Project in Ecology and Conservation begins, and thus must be taken in Year 1 if the work for Project in Ecology and Conservation begins in Year 1.

Part-time students must consult with the Programme Coordinator before registering for courses.

Assessment: By a combination of (1) assignments as prescribed for each course, and (2) a dissertation covering the research project. MSc and Diploma candidates are usually required to attend an oral examination.