

take an MSc on the wild side

MSc in Conservation and Biodiversity

- 1 year full-time with significant research component
- Taught by leading international researchers
- All material specifically designed for masters level
- New buildings and state of the art facilities
- Field training in UK and Africa
- Modular programme with 5 major elements
- Starts October 2005



Conservation

Nature reserve design, animal behaviour and conservation, marine vertebrate conservation, sustainable use of wildlife and plant conservation techniques. Provides theoretical training and addresses important practical applications.

Biodiversity

Study of biodiversity at the gene, individual, population and ecosystem levels. Offers a synthetic understanding of the scientific processes that underpin conservation biology.

Key Skills

Personal skills development, field and laboratory techniques, data analysis and modelling. Includes wildlife identification and observation skills, environmental impact assessment, grant proposal writing, molecular genetics, wildlife photography.

Kenya Field Course

Visits some of Africa's largest and most important game reserves. An introduction to day-to-day and strategic problems faced by conservation biologists in a developing nation.

Independent Research Project

Examples include:

- Individual adaptive differences under rapid ecological change
- Analysis of the value of wildlife ecotourism in Cornwall
- Biogeography of gene flow in birds of the Scilly Islands
- Climate change and insect fitness
- Costs of mate choice
- Effects of Hurricane Ivan on Cayman Islands' parrots
- Linking biodiversity to ecosystem functioning
- Local adaptation in swallows
- Matrix models for population management
- Nest site selection in marine turtles in Montserrat
- Sexual selection in sugar birds

External Liaison

Extensive contact with conservationists from collaborating organizations including: Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Eden Project, Herpetological Conservation Trust, Marine Conservation Society, National Marine Aquarium, National Seal Sanctuary, North of England Zoological Society, Orca Sea-faris, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, World Parrot Trust.

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