



Ecology and survey – Intensive vocational training

Introduction

This comprehensive vocational course covers ecology and survey techniques for habitats, bats, badgers, birds, dormice, great crested newts, reptiles and invasive species, data interpretation and report writing. The 10-day course consists of classroom and practical sessions, providing current expert knowledge and practical field experience.

This course aims to provide the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to conduct effective ecological field surveys for a range of key species, and to analyse and present field survey data with confidence.

The course is a mix of class and field work, taught by professional ecologists with extensive experience, all of whom work as ecological consultants and are members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM).

Who is the course for?

The course is designed for a wide range of both students and professionals needing to up-skill in ecological knowledge, a range of survey techniques and data interpretation.

Many of our past students have been professional ecological consultants, environmental managers and rangers, graduates and students, as well as those looking to make a career change.

Course content

- Introduction to ecological careers, consultancy, ecological surveys and assessment.
- Basic plant identification and extended phase 1 habitat survey
- Bat ecology and bat survey techniques, including practical experience of bat activity survey
- Bat sound analysis, using Analoow, Anabat Insight (Titley), Bat Explorer (Elekon) and Kaleidoscope (Wildlife Acoustics)
- QGIS for ecological consultants and wildlife surveyors

- Dormouse ecology and survey techniques
- Badger ecology, survey techniques and mitigation measures
- Great crested newt ecology and survey techniques
- Reptile ecology, survey techniques and mitigation measures, including adder handling
- Introduction to report types, including Survey Reports, Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Ecological Impact Assessment, Environmental Statements, Mitigation and Management Plans, Habitats Regulations Assessment, etc.
- Report writing, BS 42020 'Biodiversity - Code of practice for planning and development', biodiversity net gain and offsetting.

Objectives

The course aims to equip students with the techniques to survey, measure, quantify and assess a key range of protected and notable species and habitats. It is essential for ecological consultants and conservation professionals to make evidence-based well-informed decisions about sites, habitats and species. Students will develop a critical understanding of how to analyse and present field survey data to assess the status of habitats and species.

The course is assessed, reflecting the learning objectives, and students are required to undertake a 1-hour exam at the end of each week. Students will gain a course certificate, which will outline your learning, skills and experience for prospective employers.

Where?

The course is held at our main office, just outside of Exeter, and the field work is undertaken locally.

Price

The 2022 standard course price is £1,350.00 if booked by 31/12/2021 or £1,450.00 thereafter. There is an additional discount of 5% for groups of 5 or more.

How to book

Please email office@richardgreenecology.co.uk for a booking form.