



# BSc (Hons) Wildlife Conservation and Environmental Management (Top-up)

UCAS code	BSc (Hons): CD1H
Institution code	H12
Duration	1 year (full-time)
Start date	September 2025
Location	<a href="#">Harper Adams University campus</a>

**This course is ideal for students with an appropriate foundation degree or HND to top-up to a full degree in Wildlife Conservation and Environmental Management.**

## Entry requirements

- Top-up applicants must have achieved an average of 60% in their Foundation degree to apply.
- Applicants must have completed a full year's placement as part of their course of study or two years of full-time relevant employment after their course.

For more information on entry requirements please contact [Lucy Crockford](#).

# What will I study?

## BSc (Hons) Top-up

Year 1	
Honours Research Project (HRPROJC17)	30
Land Information and Research Skills (R5012C17)	15
Applied Ecology for Management (C6003C17)	15
International Perspectives on the Management of Animal Populations (C6010C17)	15
Geographical Information Systems and Land Use (C6009C17)	15
Environment and Geography Field Course (C6007C17)	15
Options	
Environmental Assessment and Management (C6008C17)	15
Ecosystems and Environmental Resource Management (C6006C17)	15
Developing and Managing Environmental Projects (C6005C17)	15

## Honours Research Project

<b>Year of study</b>	1
<b>Code</b>	HRPROJC17
<b>Credits</b>	30
<b>Core/option</b>	Core

The Honours Research Project is designed to allow students to develop the skills and personal resilience needed to undertake a sustained, significant and high-quality project. In conjunction with his or her supervisor, and in light of detailed course-specific advice, each student will select a topic for investigation. They will then plan, execute and report their project. The module will draw upon learning from other taught modules, but it also requires a high degree of independent learning.

Students will need to apply their learning about the research methods associated with their discipline as they locate data to support their project; they may need to apply methods creatively according to the nature of their research topic. Throughout the module, students will be expected to make choices about the scale and manageability of their work; they will also need to apply good time management skills to ensure success. The project will require all students to search for literature related to their topic and to read independently. Students must make decisions about the direction of their research, and they will be expected to work proactively to benefit from supervision opportunities.

Students will be expected to ensure that each part of their project is ethically sound; this means following protocols but also by developing an ethical mind-set which is sensitive to stakeholders and issues arising in the research process. Students must ensure that they attend to issues of health and safety throughout their research.

## Land Information and Research Skills

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** R5012C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core  
**Module contact** [Deena Webster](#)

This module is designed to give students the teamwork and research skills that they will need as professional surveyors and to introduce skills that they will go on to develop further in their studies for their dissertation.

The module will be based around a 'real life' problem. Working in teams, students will be required to plan and implement a research project, gathering and analysing information, before presenting their findings in a group report.

### Intended Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate effective teamwork and problem-solving.
- Critically assess information and research quality, in the context of its value and limitations for advancing knowledge, making decisions and identifying research gaps.
- Plan, test and evaluate research designs, including problem definition, data collection, sampling and analysis methods.
- Apply quantitative and / or qualitative research techniques to identify patterns, relationships and trends in data and make qualified predictions/recommendations, effectively interpreting and communicating the findings to clients.

## Applied Ecology for Management

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6003C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core  
**Module contact** [Professor Nicola Randall](#)

Humans depend upon biological processes for their continued existence and for the provision of ecosystems services. The high rates of biodiversity loss remain the subject of concern. This module aims to provide an understanding of the concepts of biodiversity and of ecosystem services, and the use of biodiversity as an ecosystem service provider

In order that biodiversity may be conserved or exploited sustainably, it is important to have an understanding of how populations and communities of organisms are distributed and function and how they react to disturbance. This module is designed to provide students with a background to the complexities of community organization and the general factors that affect community stability. The module subsequently demonstrates how ecological science can be applied to real world conservation and management situations such as the design of nature reserves, pest control, and the sustainable harvesting of populations.

## International Perspectives on the Management of Animal Populations

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6010C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core  
**Module contact** [Professor Nicola Randall](#)

This module aims to enable students to use evidence-based research to inform management decision making for animal populations. Through their behaviour, organisms establish their place in the environment and their relationship with other species. Success is also affected by human induced factors such as habitat loss and fragmentation, introduced/invasive species, climate change and overharvesting.

This module will build on the animal behaviour concepts studied in levels 4 and 5, and how behavioural strategies and adaptations of different species combine with external factors to influence their fitness and survival. The module will consider how an understanding of behaviour can aid wildlife management with particular reference to one or more species of concern.

## **Geographical Information Systems and Land Use**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6009C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core  
**Module contact** [Professor Andy Wilcox](#)

Land management is a complex process involving a combination of agricultural, environmental, recreational and social issues. Geographical Information Systems (GIS) allow storage, analysis and dissemination of spatial information are an essential tool for resource management. This module will provide students with an overview of GIS theory, application and software and allow students to develop practical skills relating to spatial data capture, analysis and presentation using the ESRI ArcGIS platforms.

## **Environment and Geography Field Course**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6007C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Core  
**Module contact** [Professor Andy Wilcox](#)

Sustainable solutions to environmental problems are often complex and require a combination of different disciplines in order to achieve an acceptable outcome. Typically, such activities are carried out by a single project team or collection of project teams that each offer their own area of expertise to the solution. This module allows students to develop their high level skills and abilities by undertaking a team project based on a real situation or issue. The project will be focused around a residential field course and combine elements of the entire CEWG portfolio, including aspects of countryside, environmental and geographical management.

## **Environmental Assessment and Management**

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6008C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Option  
**Module contact** [Emma Pierce-Jenkins](#)

Environmental protection and enhancement is a crucial element of achieving sustainable development and features heavily in International, European and UK legislation and policy, a key requirement of which is that potential environmental impacts of human activities are identified and considered in decision making.

In seeking to protect our environment and deliver sustainable development it is crucial that we are able to recognise when and how human activity will impact upon the environment and how best to mitigate and manage those impacts. This module will examine the relevance and relative merits of a range of formal processes for assessing likely environmental impacts of human interaction with our environment. It will build upon earlier modules relating to environmental policy and legislation, as well as developing conservation, environment and planning themes from earlier modules.

It studies in detail Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Management Systems (EMS) in terms of legislative compliance, assessment techniques, environmental protection and mitigation strategies etc. and introduces Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)/ Sustainability Appraisal.

## Ecosystems and Environmental Resource Management

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6006C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Option  
**Module contact** [Paul Lewis](#)

This module is specifically designed to progress the practices and principles taught in the level 4 module, Environmental Monitoring and the level 5 module Environmental Quality and Protection. Countryside ecosystems are diverse, whether terrestrial or aquatic, and are associated with wide ranging habitats, functions, management and services. All such ecosystems have considerable links to, and impacts on the environment and the resources of water, soil and air. The maintenance of high quality resources is an essential component of sustainable development and land use. This module will allow the student to analyse abiotic factors associated with countryside terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, whether managed or natural, and consider associated environmental processes and science in detail. Ecosystem services, sustainability indicators and sustainable land use systems will be core elements throughout this module's delivery. There will be an emphasis on UK systems, both agricultural and natural, but consideration will also be given to overseas case-studies and examples.

## Developing and Managing Environmental Projects

**Year of study** 1  
**Code** C6005C17  
**Credits** 15  
**Core/option** Option  
**Module contact** [Emma Tappin](#)

Countryside and environmental management are complex and multi-disciplinary areas of practice. For both non-governmental organisations such as National Parks, Wildlife Trusts and the National Trust and government agencies such as Natural England, short term projects are an important mechanism to achieve desired environmental and social changes. This drive towards project delivery is as a result of funding sources increasingly being linked to short-term projects.

The implementation and success of these projects requires a sound understanding of the principles of project management. This module aims to give students insight into project development and management for clients. This module will be action-based learning where students actively work on live projects for clients, developing proposals and competing for 'support' or 'funding'. Students will gain insights into writing project proposals, competing in this bidding process, working and negotiating with clients and implementing projects proposals. They will be encouraged to develop as reflective practitioners in order that they can improve their skills for future practice.