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# CONSERVATION BIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT

BSc (Hons)



## ARE YOU STIRLING?

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## WHY STUDY CONSERVATION BIOLOGY & MANAGEMENT

The contemporary world is one of rapidly increasing human interference in natural environments and of competition for space and resources. Some species and habitats are disappearing before they can even be studied properly. As a result, understanding the complex inter-relationships between environments and their inhabitants is vital. It enables us to undertake environmental conservation and sustainable management for the benefit of future generations.

Stirling is a superb place to study this. The city is home to more environmental and conservation organisations than any other UK city – all of whom we have strong links with and some are even based at the University. With this course, you'll receive excellent practical training and preparation for a range of careers in conservation.

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# 88%

**OF OUR STUDENTS SAY  
OUR STAFF ARE GOOD AT  
EXPLAINING THINGS**

UNISTATS 2016

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## REASONS TO CHOOSE THIS COURSE

### 1 AN EMPHASIS ON FIELDWORK

You can choose from 3 overseas field courses (Gabon, France, Spain), as well as developing field skills closer to home through a weekend course and field work on the campus and the surrounding environment.

### 2 PLACEMENT

You will undertake a one month placement with an external organisation between your 3rd and 4th year, gaining a relevant working experience and making contacts.

### 3 STUDY ABROAD

You can study abroad for one semester in your 3rd year

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## COURSE DETAILS

The aim of this degree is to introduce students to the main issues in managing and conserving biodiversity at national and global scales. We place great emphasis on practical training and preparation for a wide range of careers in conservation. In employment terms there is a demand for well-trained graduates from conservation and government agencies.

### FINAL YEAR DISSERTATIONS

The final honours year lays special emphasis on independent study through an individual research project. Previous projects have included:

- Comparison of farming practices on bat foraging activity and nocturnal insects
- Mapping the distribution of red squirrels on Arran
- Restoration of species-rich grasslands for bumblebee conservation
- Estimating genetic diversity and pollen mediated gene flow in rowan forest fragments

### FIELDWORK & FIELD COURSES

Fieldwork is an essential and enjoyable part of this degree course. Stirling's campus location is an ideal base from which to make field excursions, whether to study lekking Black Grouse in the Highlands, the growth of trees on the sides of the Ochil Hills, or the distribution of animals on the Forth Estuary. As well as fieldwork in Scotland, the Conservation Biology and Management (Hons) course includes field courses that currently

run in Spain and France. Students attending the week-long field course in Spain stay near Almeria, one of the driest parts of Europe. Through a series of excursions and intensive field projects students are introduced to environmental processes in arid environments.

The 10-day field course in ecology and animal biology currently takes place in the Cévennes in France, a rugged mountain landscape of exceptional natural beauty and tremendous biodiversity. The organisms that live there include over 2,300 flowering plant species, 2,000 invertebrate species and 300 vertebrate species. The region exemplifies the deep historical connection between humans and the natural world, and is recognised as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve and World Heritage Site. During the field trip students learn various techniques in field sampling, identification, experimental design, data analysis and presentation.

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**“Doing this course at Stirling has really changed how I view the natural world. This course at Stirling is uniquely placed in that there are so many conservation-based organisations on our doorstep and, for those who are keen to get stuck in, there’s a world of things to get involved in”.**

**Lorna Blackmore.**

BSc (Hons) Conservation Biology & Management.

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## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Research-led teaching is the key to deep learning and understanding. Many students work closely with academics throughout their time and benefit from actively participating in research programmes. We have strong contacts with external conservation and environmental organisations who also contribute to the undergraduate experience through giving lectures, leading seminars, offering placements and dissertation topics. This approach ensures that our students appreciate the transferable nature of a science degree and see how their learning can be applied to the real world. In employment terms, there is a demand for well-trained graduates from conservation and government agencies.

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## CONSERVATION BIOLOGY & MANAGEMENT

CD14

[stir.ac.uk/3z](http://stir.ac.uk/3z)

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### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

#### YEAR 1 ENTRY – FOUR-YEAR HONOURS

##### SQA Highers:

AAAB – one sitting

AAAB – two sittings

##### GCE A-levels:

BBB

##### IB Diploma:

32

##### BTEC (Level 3):

DDM

##### Essential subjects:

To include one of Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Mathematics or Physics.

#### YEAR 2 ENTRY – THREE-YEAR HONOURS

##### SQA Adv Highers:

ABB

##### GCE A-levels:

ABB

##### IB Diploma:

35

##### Essential subjects:

To include Biology and one of Environmental Science, Geography or Geology.

### OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

#### Scottish HNC/HND:

Minimum entry: Bs in graded units.

Access courses and other UK/EU and international qualifications are also welcomed

#### Advanced entry

Please visit: <http://stir.ac.uk/ay>.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

General entry requirements apply.

Please visit: <http://stir.ac.uk/av>

**PART TIME, ADVANCED ENTRY  
AND STUDY ABROAD  
OPTIONS AVAILABLE**

## TYPICAL TIMETABLE

YEAR	SEMESTER	MODULE 1	MODULE 2	MODULE 3
1	1	Introduction to Ecology	Laboratory Skills	Building Planet Earth OR People and the Environment
	2	Introduction to Physiology	Field Skills	Landscape Evolution OR Global Environmental Issues
2	3	Evolution & Genetics	Introduction to Cell Biology	Biology Field Course
	4	Biodiversity	Statistical Techniques	The Biosphere
3	5	Environmental Policy and Management	5 modules from a wide range of choices including: Behavioural Ecology, Plant Ecology, Population and Community Ecology, Drainage Basins, Methods and Applications in Environmental Sciences, Environmental Hazards, Earth Observation, Habitat Management & Restoration, Soil Quality & Protection, Sustainable Water Management, Spanish Field Course	
	6			
4	7	Individual Research Project (3 modules)	Conservation Biology, Placement	Modules from a range of options including field courses to France and Gabon (see below)
	8			

### COMPULSORY MODULES

Options may vary throughout

### OPTIONS FOR SEMESTER 7 & 8

Biology Overseas Field Course; Gabon Field Course, Tropical Rainforest Ecology; Conservation Management; The Evolution of Sex; Molecular Techniques; Immunology & the Evolution of Infectious Diseases; Molecular Evolution and Phylogenetics; Proteomics; Population Ecology and Community Ecology; Habitat Management & Restoration; Sustainable Water Management; Earth Observation; Statistics Using R.



## CONTACT

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**Student Recruitment and Admissions**

T: +44 (0) 1786 467046

E: [recruitment@stir.ac.uk](mailto:recruitment@stir.ac.uk)

[stir.ac.uk/65](http://stir.ac.uk/65)

**JOIN OUR COMMUNITY**



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