Rural Environment and Conservation

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In recent years there has been a growing awareness of the potential environmental problems associated with land use. The conservation of rural landscapes and ecosystems are now an integral part of rural management. Historically, food production has been the main focus of land use. However, with the advent of food surpluses and a greater understanding of the environmental effects of modern agricultural and industrial practices, the countryside needs managers able to make decisions which balance commercial acumen and environmental discernment.

The countryside makes up 80% of the UK and around a fifth of the population live and work in these areas. The courses offered at the College seek to produce graduates with the ability to meet the needs of the countryside and ensure that rural areas continue to be developed in a sympathetic and sustainable manner. The College works closely with a variety of international, national and local organisations to ensure that the courses it delivers meet the expectations of future employers. Students gain experience working with and for relevant bodies as part of their course. Through its close links with the Countryside Management Association, the College helps to foster continuing professional development within the industry.

**Resources**

Since the inception of the first rural resource courses in 1988, the College’s 220 hectare estate has been the focus of continuing environmental work which reflects the growing interest in these areas of countryside management. Much of this work has been carried out by students as part of their course. Wildflower meadows have been created, orchids preserved and there is an ongoing strategy to increase and improve woodland habitats, including a plantation of rare Black Poplar (Populus nigra).

There are a wide variety of habitats ranging from wetland to chalk grassland and the conservation effort continues around the commercial farmland, which is included in the Countryside Stewardship Scheme. As an integral part of the experience offered on rural management and conservation courses, students practice traditional countryside management techniques.

The conservation and stewardship areas form the base for staff and student research projects, looking at the bio-diversity, flora and fauna of the area.

**Centre for Environment and Rural Affairs (CERA)**

The Centre for Environment and Rural Affairs (CERA) supports research linked to our environmental courses, as well as serving as a conduit for obtaining and facilitating work on a regional, national and international level. For more information about CERA, please see page 26.
BSc (Hons) Conservation and Environment

Course Name and Level
BSc (Hons) Conservation and Environment

UCAS Course Code
D447

Short Code
BSc/CE

Duration/Mode
3 years, full-time or 4 years with industrial placement. This course can also be studied on a part-time basis. A February start is possible for this course.

Typical Offer:
UCAS Tariff Points
140 tariff points to include at least 80 tariff points from 6-unit (GCE A level/VCE A level) and/or 12-unit awards (VCE A level). A maximum of 20 tariff points will be counted from Key Skills.

BTEC National Diploma
MPP

Irish Leaving Certificate
CCCC

Scottish Highers
190 - 240 points

International Baccalaureate
24 points

Admissions Tutor
Simon Irvin

Topping up from HND/Foundation degree
Contact the admissions tutor to discuss your individual circumstances.

Postgraduate Qualifications
Students on this course will be given the opportunity to progress to a relevant masters programme in the Postgraduate School.

The importance of conservation and the environment is increasingly being recognised by many land-based employers. This vocational course will enable students to develop the knowledge, skills and practices required to play a full and rewarding part in the management and conservation of our natural heritage. Native species and local habitats are coming under increasing pressure as a result of human activity. This course will provide students with an understanding of the countryside and the pressure that our flora and fauna are facing.

Course Content
This course has been developed in close association with countryside bodies and employers from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Areas of Study

YEAR 1
Core
- Biological Processes
- Leisure and Education
- Rural Management and Practices
- Countryside in Britain
- Natural Environment
- Learning Methods
- Introduction to Management

YEAR 2
Core
- Habitat Conservation with Interpretation
- Research Methods
- Terrestrial Environments
- Ecological Survey Techniques
- Business Management or Legal Context

Options
- Sustainable Management of Woodland Ecosystems
- Wildlife Identification and Classification
- Education and Outdoor Studies
- Countryside Access
- Rural Leisure and Tourism
- Event Management
- Marketing and Personnel
- Business Performance

YEAR 3
Core
- Habitat Management Evaluation
- Management for Habitat Conservation
- Dissertation
- Environmental Impact and Landscape Assessment
- Computer Applications for Conservation Management

Options
- Eco Tourism
- Faunal Survey Techniques
- Conservation Biology
- Environmental Management Systems
- Interpretation for Leisure
- Disability in Sport and Recreation
- Leisure Policy and Planning
- Business Development
- Strategic Management

Special Features
The strong vocational nature of this course is supported by the College's 220 hectare estate which provides a diverse range of habitats which include dedicated conservation areas such as wetland areas, chalk grassland, woodland and coppice. In addition to specific conservation areas the College farm provides an important teaching resource which enables students to balance the complexities of modern farming practices with farm conservation initiatives and their relevance to wildlife and landscape conservation.
Conservation work on this diverse estate is carried out by the Estate Ranger Unit in association with students’ help, both as part of practical coursework and as voluntary members of the College conservation group – the “Green Machine”.

**Career Prospects**
Past graduates have found employment in local authorities, wildlife trusts, countryside management as well as in educational, interpretative and consultancy positions.

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**BSc (Hons) Wildlife Management**

**Course Name and Level**
BSc (Hons) Wildlife Management

**UCAS Course Code**
DNL2

**Short Code**
BSc/W MGMT

**Duration/Mode**
3 years, full-time or 4 years with industrial placement. This course can also be studied on a part-time basis. A February start is possible for this course.

**Typical Offer:**
**UCAS Tariff Points**
140 tariff points to include at least 80 tariff points from 6-unit (GCE A level/VCE A level) and/or 12-unit awards (VCE A level). A maximum of 20 tariff points will be counted from Key Skills.

**BTEC National Diploma**
MPP

**Irish Leaving Certificate**
CCCC

**Scottish Highers**
190 – 240 points

**International Baccalaureate**
24 points

**Admissions Tutor**
Simon Irvin

**Topping up from HND/Foundation degree**
Contact the admissions tutor to discuss your individual circumstances.

**Postgraduate Qualifications**
Students on this course will be given the opportunity to progress to a relevant masters programme in the Postgraduate School.

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**BSc (Hons) Conservation and Environment**

**Course Name and Level**
BSc (Hons) Conservation and Environment

**Course Content**
This course provides comprehensive training in modern wildlife management techniques and is designed to introduce key concepts of biodiversity, sustainability and environmental conservation.

**Career Prospects**
Students will develop a broad understanding of the scientific principles required for effective management of our wild flora and fauna, which is increasingly coming under pressure as a result of human activity. Combined with a sound scientific underpinning, students will gain hands-on experience in the techniques of collecting, analysing, and interpreting data for the conservation and management of our natural environment. This course has been developed in close association with countryside bodies and employers from a wide variety of backgrounds. These close ties with industry ensure that course content remains relevant and that students have the skills that employers need when they seek employment.

**Areas of Study**

**YEAR 1**

**Core**
- Biological Processes
- Leisure and Education
- Rural Management and Practices
- Countryside in Britain
- Natural Environment
- Learning Methods
- Introduction to Management

**YEAR 2**

**Core**
- Habitat Conservation with Interpretation
- Research Methods
- Animal Ecology
- Wildlife in a Changing Environment
- Business Management

**YEAR 2**

**Options**
- Sustainable Management of Woodland Ecosystems
- Wildlife Identification and Classification
- Education and Outdoor Studies
- Countryside Access
- Rural Leisure and Tourism
- Event Management

**YEAR 3**

**Core**
- Habitat Management Evaluation
- Management for Habitat Conservation
- Dissertation
- Faunal Survey Techniques
- Species Conservation
**YEAR 2**

**Options**
- Eco Tourism
- Conservation Biology
- Environmental Impact and Landscape Assessment
- Computer Applications for Conservation Management
- Interpretation for Leisure
- Leisure Policy and Planning
- Business Development
- Disability in Sport and Recreation

**Special Features**
Students undertake wildlife monitoring and surveying in specialised modules such as Faunal Survey Techniques. By studying dedicated wildlife modules students will develop a range of practical and academic skills enabling students to manage the flora and fauna of the natural environment in a sustainable fashion.

This course is supported by the College’s 220 hectare estate which provides a diverse range of habitats which include dedicated conservation areas such as wetland areas, chalk grassland, woodland and coppice. In addition to specific conservation areas the College farm provides an important teaching resource which enables our students to balance the complexities of modern farming practices with farm conservation initiatives and their relevance to wildlife and landscape conservation.

Wildlife and habitat management is carried out by the Estate Ranger Unit in association with students’ help, both as part of practical coursework and as voluntary members of the College conservation group – the “Green Machine”.

**Career Prospects**
Past graduates have found employment as a community liaison officer, wildlife liaison officer, countryside ranger, environmental education officer, rights of way officer and many others. Employment opportunities arise for graduates in organisations such as wildlife trusts, English Nature, Local Authorities or The National Trust.

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**BSc (Hons) Rural Resource Management**

**Course Name and Level**
BSc (Hons) Rural Resource Management

**UCAS Course Code**
D444

**Short Code**
BSc/RRM

**Duration/Mode**
3 years, full-time or 4 years with industrial placement. This course can also be studied on a part-time basis. A February start is possible for this course.

**Typical Offer:**

**UCAS Tariff Points**
140 tariff points to include at least 80 tariff points from 6-unit (GCE A level/VCE A level) and/or 12-unit awards (VCE A level). A maximum of 20 tariff points will be counted from Key Skills.

**BTEC National Diploma**
MPP

**Irish Leaving Certificate**
CCCC

**Scottish Highers**
190 – 240 points

**International Baccalaureate**
24 points

**Admissions Tutor**
Simon Irvin

Topping up from HND/Foundation degree
Contact the admissions tutor to discuss your individual circumstances.

**Postgraduate Qualifications**
Students on this course will be given the opportunity to progress to a relevant Masters programme in the Postgraduate School.

This course is designed for students who have a strong interest in land use and those who seek to increase their knowledge of effective rural management.

The main focus of study lays the foundations for the sustainable management of environmental, social and economic contexts of rural life and explores the interactions between these, conservation issues and future management policies.

**Course Content**
The course will produce graduates with both the academic and vocational skills required by today’s managers in the rural arena. The modules have been developed in association with countryside bodies and employers from a wide variety of backgrounds.

**Areas of Study**

**YEAR 1**

**Core**
- Biological Processes
- Leisure and Education
- Rural Management and Practices
- Countryside in Britain
- Natural Environment
- Learning Methods
- Introduction to Management
YEAR 2
Core
Marketing and Personnel
Habitat Conservation with Interpretation
Research Methods
Legal Context
Business Performance

YEAR 2 Options
Rural Leisure and Tourism
Countryside Access
Sustainable Management of Woodland Ecosystems
Wildlife Identification and Classification
Terrestrial Environments
Ecological Survey Techniques
Education and Outdoor Studies
Event Management

YEAR 3
Core
Habitat Management Evaluation
Dissertation
Management for Habitat Conservation
Strategic Management
Rural Development – Policies and Politics

YEAR 3 Options
Environmental Impact and Landscape Assessment
Computer Applications for Conservation Management
Species Conservation
Faunal Survey Techniques
Interpretation for Leisure
Leisure Policy and Planning
Business Development
Disability in Sport and Recreation

Career Prospects
Past graduates have found employment with organisations such as the Rural Community Council, Agricultural Diversification in Eastern Regions, Local Authorities and in consultancy positions.

BA (Hons) Outdoor Recreation with Conservation

Course Name and Level
BA (Hons) Outdoor Recreation with Conservation

UCAS Course Code
N2D4

Short Code
BA/ORWC

Duration/Mode
3 years, full-time. This course can also be studied on a part-time basis. A February start is possible for this course.

Typical Offer:
UCAS Tariff Points
140 tariff points to include at least 80 tariff points from 6-unit (GCE A level/VCE A level) and/or 12-unit awards (VCE A level). A maximum of 20 tariff points will be counted from Key Skills.

BTEC National Diploma
MPP

Irish Leaving Certificate
CCCC

Scottish Highers
190 - 240 points

International Baccalaureate
24 points

Admissions Tutor
Simon Irvin

Topping up from HND/Foundation degree
Contact the admissions tutor to discuss your individual circumstances.

The increasing popularity for outdoor recreation in the environment has a direct impact upon our natural landscape. This programme is designed to produce graduates who can balance the often competing needs of outdoor recreational activities with sustainable conservation management. This vocational course will enable students to develop the knowledge and skills in the practices required to play a full and rewarding part in the management and conservation of our natural heritage, yet fully appreciate the important contribution outdoor recreation provides to local economies and the significance of the close interface between outdoor recreation and conservation.

Course Content
The course places emphasis on the close relationship which exists between outdoor recreation and the conservation of the environment. An applied vocational approach is taken, looking at how outdoor recreational activities are designed, planned, implemented and managed, and how effective management can alleviate the conflict between user groups, other vested interests and importantly the effect upon the environment.

As a result of human activity our natural landscape and local habitats are coming under increasing pressure. This course will provide students with an understanding of the countryside and the recreational pressure it is facing.
Areas of Study

**YEAR 1**

**Core**
- Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Principles and Practice
- Leisure and Tourism, Industry and Management
- Leisure and Education
- Countryside in Britain
- Natural Environment
- Learning Methods

**YEAR 2**

**Core**
- Rural Leisure and Tourism
- Education and Outdoor Studies
- Habitat Conservation with Interpretation
- Outdoor Leadership
- Applied Research

**YEAR 2**

**Options**
- Contemporary Issues in Heritage and Tourism
- Countryside Access
- Adventure Tourism, Planning and Resources
- Commercial Outdoor Operations
- Managing Financial Resources
- Outdoor Sport and Recreation

**YEAR 3**

**Core**
- Dissertation
- Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Policy and Planning
- Managing the Outdoor Environment
- Conservation, Ecological Management
- Interpretation for Leisure

**YEAR 3**

**Options**
- Ecotourism
- Heritage Tourism Development
- Leisure Policy and Planning
- Disability in Sport and Recreation
- Human Resource Management
- Business Development

Special Features

The strong vocational nature of this course is supported by the College’s 220 hectare estate which provides an arena for outdoor recreational activities as well as providing a diverse range of habitats which include dedicated conservation areas and woodlands. Conservation work on this diverse estate is carried out by the Estate Ranger Unit in association with students’ help, both as part of practical coursework and as voluntary members of the College conservation group - the “Green Machine”.

Career Prospects

Graduates will possess the knowledge and skills necessary for challenging careers within this industry, such as employment in national park authorities, local authorities, wildlife trusts, countryside management organisations, as well as in environmental education, outdoor education, adventure education and consultancy positions.

FdSc Conservation and Environment

**Course Name and Level**
FdSc Conservation and Environment

**UCAS Course Code**
D446

**Short Code**
FdSc/CE

**Duration/Mode**
2 years, full-time. This course can also be studied on a part-time basis. A February start is possible for this course.

**Typical Offer:**

**UCAS Tariff Points**
40 tariff points. A maximum of 20 tariff points will be counted from Key Skills. Each applicant will be considered on merit. Whilst academic qualifications such as A levels, National Diplomas and HNCs will be considered, enthusiasm, experience and commitment are just as important.

**Admissions Tutor**
Simon Irvin

**Topping up from HND/Foundation degree**
Contact the admissions tutor to discuss your individual circumstances.

**Progression**

The opportunity exists to progress to the BSc (Hons) Conservation and Environment and the BSc (Hons) Wildlife Management and the BSc (Hons) Rural Resource Management.

**The importance of conservation and the environment is increasingly being recognised. This course provides an understanding of the countryside and the pressure that both wildlife and the environment are facing.**

**Course Content**

The main emphasis for the course is to balance the often competing needs of the countryside with that of recreational visitors and importantly understand current issues associated with agriculture and conservation. Effective management of the environment is therefore essential. This course has been designed to reflect the needs of employers and will give you both the practical and academic skills required within the work place.

**Areas of study**

**YEAR 1**

**Core**
- Biological Processes
Leisure and Education
Rural Management and Practices
Countryside in Britain
Natural Environment
Learning Methods
Introduction to Management

YEAR 2
Core
Habitat Conservation with Interpretation
Career Development
Learning From Work Experience
Consultancy Project
Business Management

YEAR 2
Options
Sustainable Management of Woodland Ecosystems
Terrestrial Environments
Ecological Survey Techniques
Education and Outdoor Studies
Countryside Access
Rural Leisure and Tourism
Animal Ecology
W idlife in a Changing Environment
W idlife Identification and Classification

Special Features
The strong vocational nature of this course will allow students to undertake practical conservation work around the College estate, providing them with a range of skills required in the work place. An important element of this Foundation degree consists of a period of work experience undertaken during the second year. This important feature will enable students to concentrate on a particular area of interest within the environmental field and help contextualise modules and subjects studied while here at W rittle College.

Career Prospects
This course will enable students to enter into a career where they will effectively be able to manage the conservation of the natural environment in a sustainable fashion. Through a specialised career development module, students will be able to identify prospective career routes. These may include employment with an organisation such as W idlife Trusts, English N ature, Local Authorities or The N ational Trust, in jobs ranging from a countryside ranger, community wildlife officer, environmental education officer and countryside access officer.

FdA Outdoor Recreation with Conservation

Course Name and Level
FdA Outdoor Recreation with Conservation

UCAS Course Code
N 2D K

Short Code
FdA/ORWC

Duration/Mode
2 years, full-time. This course can also be studied on a part-time basis. A February start is possible for this course.

Typical Offer:
UCAS Tariff Points
40 tariff points. A maximum of 20 tariff points will be counted from Key Skills. Each applicant will be considered on merit. Whilst academic qualifications such as A levels, National Diplomas and HNCs will be considered, enthusiasm, experience and commitment are just as important.

Admissions Tutor
Simon Irvin

Topping up from HND/Foundation degree
Contact the admissions tutor to discuss your individual circumstances.

Progression
The opportunity exists to progress to the BA (Hons) Outdoor Recreation with Conservation.

Outdoor recreation and conservation is a multidisciplinary concept. With increased participation in a wide range of outdoor activities, there is a serious risk of potential damage to the environment they utilise. The aim of this Foundation degree is to produce graduates who can balance the often competing needs of outdoor recreational activities with sustainable conservation management.

Course Content
This vocationally oriented course is structured to enable students to foster the key concepts of environmental sustainability which is associated with outdoor recreation.

Key areas studied will address how leisure and recreation in the environment can be managed, and importantly key areas of study will provide an appropriate ecological overview of the natural environment.
Areas of study

YEARS

Core modules

YEAR 1

Outdoor Recreation and Conservation, Principles and Practice
Leisure and Tourism, Industry and Management
Leisure and Education
Countryside in Britain
Natural Environment
Learning Methods

YEAR 2

Core modules

Rural Leisure and Tourism
Learning From Work Experience
Habitat Conservation with Interpretation
Education and Outdoor Studies
Outdoor Leadership

YEAR 2 OPTIONS

Career Development
Contemporary Issues in Heritage and Tourism
Country-side Access
Adventure Tourism, Planning and Resources
Commercial Outdoor Operations
Managing Financial Resources
Applied Research

Special Features

The strong vocational nature of this course is supported by the College’s 220 hectare estate which provides an arena for outdoor recreational activities as well as providing a diverse range of habitats which include dedicated conservation areas and woodlands. Conservation work on this diverse estate is carried out by the Estate Ranger Unit in association with students’ help, both as part of practical coursework and as voluntary members of the College conservation group – the “Green Machine”.

Career Prospects

Graduates will possess the knowledge and skills necessary for challenging careers within this industry, such as employment in national park authorities, local authorities, wildlife trusts, countryside management organisations, as well as in environmental education, interpretative, outdoor education, adventure education and consultancy positions.

Higher Certificate in Conservation and Environment

Course Name and Level

Higher Certificate in Conservation and Environment

Duration/Mode

One year, full-time. This course can also be studied on a part-time basis.

Typical Offer:

UCAS Tariff Points

Each applicant will be considered on merit. Whilst academic qualifications such as A levels, National Diplomas and HNCs will be considered, enthusiasm, experience and commitment are just as important.

Admissions Tutor

Simon Irvin

Progression

The opportunity exists to progress to the FdSc Conservation and Environment, FdA Outdoor Recreation with Conservation, BSc (Hons) Conservation and Environment, BSc (Hons) Wildlife Management, BSc (Hons) Rural Resource Management and the BA (Hons) Outdoor Recreation with Conservation.

Native species and local habitats are coming under increasing pressure as a result of human activity. Therefore the importance of conservation and the environment is increasingly being recognised.

Course Content

The Higher Certificate in Conservation and Environment is designed to introduce key concepts of biodiversity and will provide students with an awareness of past and present land use practices and of the impact modern agriculture has upon the environment. This course is particularly suitable for mature students or anyone who is interested in the natural environment or the conservation of our countryside. This will include those who help organisations such as The Wildlife Trust as a conservation volunteer, or a professional conservationist wishing to improve their knowledge and skills.

Areas of Study

Core modules

Biological Processes
Leisure and Education
Rural Management and Practices
Countryside in Britain
Natural Environment
Learning Methods
Introduction to Management

**Special Features**
The strong vocational nature of this course will allow students to undertake practical conservation work around Writtle College estate. Students will develop a range of practical and academic skills enabling them to manage the conservation of the natural environment in a sustainable fashion.

**Career Prospects**
Prospective career routes may include employment with organisations such as Wildlife Trusts, English Nature, Local Authorities or The National Trust, in jobs ranging from a countryside ranger, community wildlife officer, environmental education officer and countryside access officer.

**Higher Certificate in Outdoor Recreation with Conservation**

**Course Name and Level**
Higher Certificate in Outdoor Recreation with Conservation

**Duration/Mode:**
One year, full-time. This course can also be studied on a part-time basis.

**Typical Offer:**
UCAS Tariff Points
Each applicant will be considered on merit. Whilst academic qualifications such as A levels, National Diplomas and HNCs will be considered, enthusiasm, experience and commitment are just as important.

**Admissions Tutor:**
Simon Irvin

**Progression:**
The opportunity exists to progress to the FdSc Conservation and Environment, FdA Outdoor Recreation with Conservation, BSc (Hons) Conservation and Environment, BSc (Hons) Wildlife Management, BSc (Hons) Rural Resource Management and the BA (Hons) Outdoor Recreation with Conservation.

This vocational course of study will enable individuals to balance the often competing needs of the countryside with that of recreational visitors, with particular focus towards producing the knowledge and skills required to effectively manage outdoor recreational activities and conservation resources in a sustainable fashion.

**Course Content**
This is particularly suitable for mature students or anyone who is interested in outdoor recreation and conservation of our countryside. This will include those who help organisations such as Wildlife Trusts as a conservation volunteer or a professional conservationist wishing to improve their knowledge and skills. A considerable number of mature students have successfully used this course as a conduit for a career change.

**Areas of Study**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR 1</th>
<th>Core</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Principles and Practice Leisure and Tourism, Industry and Management Leisure and Education Countryside in Britain Natural Environment Learning Methods</td>
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**Special Features**
The strong vocational nature of this course will allow students to undertake practical conservation work around Writtle College estate. Students will develop a range of practical and academic skills enabling them to manage increased outdoor recreation in the countryside in a sustainable fashion.

**Career Prospects**
Graduates will possess the knowledge and skills necessary for challenging careers within this industry, such as employment in national park authorities, Local Authorities, Wildlife Trusts, countryside management organisations, as well as in environmental education, outdoor education, adventure education and consultancy positions.