

MSc Plant Conservation



PRIFYSGOL
BANGOR
UNIVERSITY



Photo John Gorham

COURSE OVERVIEW

This one-year MSc course in Plant Conservation is intended for students with a strong interest in conserving the world's biodiversity.

The course has a particular focus on interactive learning and you will make extensive use of the university botanic garden (Treborth Botanic Garden) for lectures, seminars and practical classes. We emphasise applied plant conservation in this course, with field trips to our partner organisations; National Botanic Garden of Wales, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew and Plantlife International. In addition we make full use of the region's outstanding plant diversity, from seashore to mountain top. We build upon Bangor's international reputation for plant

ecology to address current conservation issues.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The MSc includes both taught and research components. The taught part of the course runs from October – May and includes considerable practical and field work as well as lectures and seminars. The research part of the course runs from June – September and is where you will develop your dissertation. You will use your knowledge and skills from the taught course to develop your own research ideas and examine your topic interest in detail. You will have the opportunity to work with the partner organisations (Kew, NBGW, Plantlife International and Natural Resources Wales) to carry out your project.

CAREER PROSPECTS

As a graduate from this course you will be trained to address real world conservation problems enabling you to play a leading role in a variety of organisations such as government environmental agencies, international and national NGO's, botanic gardens and arboreta. Graduates will be equipped with the skills to continue in academic research. This course will also prepare you for employment at the cutting edge of the global horticultural industry.

More information about our conservation research group at Bangor can be found at <http://conservation.bangor.ac.uk/>

SUBJECTS COVERED

Botany and ecology will focus on appreciating and understanding the remarkable diversity of plants from bryophytes to angiosperms. You will gain skills in identification and explore plant community ecology.

Applied plant conservation will draw upon the global expertise of people working in the field. Guest speakers from a wide range of conservation organisations will deliver a series of seminars to discuss their experiences in 'doing' plant conservation.

Conservation science provides an overview of key concepts which underpin conservation and management of populations, habitats and ecosystems. The roles of ecology, economics and social science in

conservation are also covered.

Natural Resource Management gives students a theoretical understanding of the systems approach to managing natural resources, as well as a practical grounding in the ways in which natural resource managers can draw on different kinds of knowledge sources.

Research methods forms a foundation for your dissertation research and will develop your project management skills, statistics and modelling, GIS and other essential skills required to conduct research in a range of ecosystems.

Field study tour gives students the opportunity to see in situ and ex situ conservation in action at world renowned sites including Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Millennium Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place, Plantlife

International field site on the North Downs and the National Botanic Garden of Wales.

ASSESSMENT AND DISSERTATION

The course is assessed by a combination of examinations, continuous assessment, seminar presentations and a dissertation. The topic for your dissertation will be selected in discussion with your project supervisor and can relate to any aspect of plant conservation. You can discuss your project ideas with any of the partner organisations and our links with Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanic Garden in China offers a unique opportunity to carry out your research in one of the most botanically diverse regions of the world.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should normally have at least a second-class degree in a relevant subject. Applications from people with other backgrounds wishing to develop an understanding of plant conservation issues are welcomed and will be considered on an individual basis.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Details on how to apply and the current fee structure can be obtained online at <http://www.bangor.ac.uk/courses/postgrad/taught/application.php.en>

FURTHER INFORMATION

<http://www.bangor.ac.uk/senrgy>

MSc Plant Conservation Director
Dr Sophie Williams
e-mail s.williams@bangor.ac.uk

Course Administrator
m.furlong@bangor.ac.uk
School of Environment, Natural Resources & Geography
Bangor University
Gwynedd, LL57 2UW, UK