PART-TIME SHORT COURSES UPLAND ENVIRONMENTAL LAND MANAGEMENT



Institute of Science & Environment





Gain new skills for upland environmental land management

University of Cumbria brings you three new, accredited, short courses in upland environmental land management topics. Provided through our Institute of Science and Environment, these courses launch in the academic year 2023/24.

For the first time, farmers, land managers and advisors can study these accredited higher education short courses helping you respond to changes in upland farming. They're the result of a unique partnership between the University and the farming and land management sector.

Level 4 modules will initially be offered in:

- Farm Business Opportunities
- Upland Farming for Net Zero, developed with the Farm Carbon Toolkit
- Mapping Environmental Assets, developed with Land App

Each module has an applied focus and is offered part-time to fit alongside work. They can be studied individually or as a set, with start dates in October, January and June.

Course details

The courses have been developed for people working in, or seeking to work in, upland farming, land management or advisory services. Prior experience of higher education is not required. Themes of biodiversity and climate impact, environmental and business sustainability and a land stewardship ethic run across all modules.

Twenty-four hours of tuition is delivered across six weeks, via workshops, online evening lectures and farm visits. Additional independent study, putting learning into practice, leads to accreditation.

Organisations involved with course development include Foundation for Common Land, Ernest Cook Trust; The Farmer Network; RSPB, National Trust; Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership and Food, Farming and Countryside Commission.

The University of Cumbria's fee per module is £500 in the academic year 2023/4.

Organisations may provide bursaries to fully fund or subsidise the course fee subject to their own criteria.

Benefits to you

- 1. Expert tuition by tutors who know the upland farming and land management sector.
- 2. Gain practical skills and new ways of thinking, for immediate application.
- 3. Study part-time to fit alongside work, with the flexibility to choose one or more modules.
- 4. Relevant technology integrated into the course.
- 5. Opportunities to develop supportive local networks.



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Module Highlights

<u>Farm Business Opportunities</u> from October 2023

This course develops skills in financial planning, environmentally sustainable farming and farm diversification.

Participants will:

- Complete a baseline financial analysis for an upland farm
- · Model the impact on farm finances of entering Environmental Land Management schemes
- Explore environmentally sustainable and regenerative farming practices in an upland context
- Identify practical opportunities for on-farm diversification in upland areas

<u>Upland Farming for Net Zero</u> from 2024



Developed in partnership with the Farm Carbon Toolkit, this course explores the climate impacts of upland farming and land management practices and links these to productivity and profitability.

Participants will:

- Complete a realistic carbon audit for an upland farm
- Understand the role of carbon and 'carbon equivalent' gases and the concept of net zero
- Know where carbon is emitted and sequestered on an upland farm
- Compare the carbon-equivalent emissions from livestock under different management systems
- Discover practical steps to take towards net zero

Mapping Environmental Assets from 2024



Developed in partnership with Land App, this course introduces the latest digital skills in mapping upland environmental assets to quantify, plan and monitor changes.

Participants will:

- Use technology to create a layered map of environmental assets for an upland area
- Access relevant publicly available data sets and extract relevant data
- Gain an understanding of biodiversity and habitat baseline assessment and monitoring techniques

