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| Course Title | BSc (Hons) Woodland Ecology and Conservation |
| Course URL | https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/woodland-ecology-and-conservation/ |
| Course Fees | £9,250 (Annually) |
| Additional Costs | |
| Welcome to your course | |
| <p>Welcome to the National School of Forestry, University of Cumbria. We hope that your chosen course, the BSc (Hons) Woodland Ecology and Conservation, will inspire and challenge you. We aim to provide the support you need and hope that you will enjoy your time with us. The course is structured to give you the skills in the first and second year to enable you to transfer across to the with placement year option if you choose. In final year, you have some a mix of core and optional modules to enable you to become the kind of future woodland ecologist that you want to be. The aim is that you will obtain the benefits of being taught by staff within the National School of Forestry and our colleagues in the Centre for National Parks and Protected Areas.</p> <p>Welcome Week has been designed to give you an interesting and enjoyable start to your BSc (Hons) Woodland Ecology and Conservation. During the week we will explain more about the course and who to speak to if you feel you need any help. There will be opportunities to get to know staff, each other and students from other courses. There will be some trips to some of the woodlands in the Lake District National Park that you will use to practice what you learn.</p> <p>Learning some common broadleaved tree species such as oak, birch, ash, beech and sycamore is a great way to prepare for you course. If you are already good at these, learn the difference between our two native oaks and two native birch trees.</p> <p>If you do not already have a driving licence, be aware that you will have to learn to drive in order to have any realistic hope of obtaining a future job.</p> <p>A good introductory text that I would recommend reading is 'Woodland Management: A practical guide.' By Chris Starr. First published in 2005 by The Crowood Press Ltd. http://www.treesource.co.uk/woodland-management%3A-a-practical-guide~896 However, I should point out that I am biased because Chris is a recently retired member of staff, and a good friend.</p> <p>In order to prepare for the course, we recommend that you keep up to date with current affairs, particularly forestry and land-use related issues. You can do this by regularly reading newspapers or watching the news.</p> <p>If you have any questions about starting the course, please do get in contact.</p> | |
| Books and Journals | |
| <p>Students need to spend approximately £100 - £200 a year on text books, although this cost can be reduced considerably by sourcing second hand copies of books, or enquiring about student discounts from our local specialist forestry book supplier, Summerfield Books: http://www.treesource.co.uk/student-discounts/</p> | |
| Stationery | |
| <p>Stationery for your own personal use (pens, papers and folders, etc.). Printing posters and other materials.</p> | |

Whilst you will choose how much you need, expect to pay around £30 - £40 per year for these.

Clothing and Equipment

Field visits begin during welcome week and continue right through the year, so you will need:

- Waterproof jacket and trousers (£150-£200)
- Walking boots (£50-100)
- Warm hat and gloves (£30)
- Other outdoor clothing e.g. thermals, fleeces, socks, walking type trousers etc. (prices vary)
- Rucksack (ideally with waterproof cover) for day use.

There are lots of good Outdoor shops in Ambleside and many give student discounts, so if you don't have some of these, you can wait for the first week. However, be as ready for the weather as you can be, we do like to get outside as much as possible, right from the first afternoon of induction week

Within four weeks of starting the course, you will also need your own copy of:

Matthews, R.W. and Mackie, E.D. (2006). Forest Mensuration: a handbook for practitioners. Forestry Commission, Edinburgh. <http://www.treesource.co.uk/forest-mensuration%3A-a-handbook-for-practitioners~3744>

Please note that this is listed as equipment as it is a tool you will need to be taught how to use (I still have to refresh my memory of how it works sometimes). Consequently, it is deliberately not listed under pre-course reading, it is our job to guide you through it.

Equipment can be purchased at outdoor and agricultural suppliers. There are lots of outdoor shops in Ambleside that will probably offer student discounts at the beginning of the academic year, so you may wish to buy gear when you first arrive, but bear in mind you will be going out on fieldtrips from the very beginning (hopefully you are looking forward to this aspect of your course).

The following website is also useful:

Stanton Hope – Forestry equipment supplier

Field Trips

Whilst transport to local day and half day field trip sites is provided, all National School of Forestry students go on two study tours during their courses. The first years go north to Scotland around Easter time to see upland conifer plantations and iconic Caledonian pinewoods. The second years go south to look at lowland broadleaved silviculture and traditional coppicing. Our students usually describe these trips, meeting hosts who are forest industry and woodland conservation experts, on their own patch, as the highlights of their course.

The costs of these 5 day, Monday to Friday study tours, staying in Youth Hostels, or equivalent accommodation, are kept to a minimum. In recent years they have been subsidised by the University, but that cannot be guaranteed. Students should anticipate each trip costing up to £150 for travel and accommodation.

Woodland Ecology and Conservation students have the option of choosing an Applied Field Studies module instead of attending the second year study tour. In this case, they would be able to go to Gambia, or a similar destination, with students on other conservation courses. This study

tour is a great option for anyone interested in conservation in the developing world, especially in tropical regions, but inevitably is a bit more expensive.

We have just started having a one or two night stay for final year students, which has been subsidised, but this cannot be guaranteed, however, this trip should cost no more than £50 for travel and accommodation.

Contact Us

If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with me, Andrew Weatherall. I am your course leader and I am really looking forward to meeting you.