CONSERVATION

Postgraduate programmes offered by the School of Anthropology and Conservation, with the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology research centre

Canterbury
INTRODUCTION

Kent is an excellent environment in which to undertake postgraduate study within the field of conservation, offering programmes that expose students to unique experiences and opportunities.

Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE)
The Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE) is the United Kingdom’s leading research centre dedicated to conserving biodiversity and the ecological processes that support ecosystems and people. It pursues innovative and cutting-edge research to develop the knowledge that underpins conservation, and sets itself apart from more traditionally-minded academic institutions with its clear aims to:

• break down the barriers between the natural and social sciences in conservation
• conduct research that informs and improves policy and practice in all relevant sectors
• disseminate knowledge and provide expertise on conservation issues to stakeholders
• build capacity in the conservation sector through research-led teaching and training
• strive for sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity conservation that benefits people.

Our members have outstanding international research profiles, yet integrate this with considerable on-the-ground experience working with conservation agencies around the world. This combination of expertise ensures that our programmes deliver the skills and knowledge that are essential components of conservation implementation.

Our disciplinary breadth enables us to provide supervision on a wide range of topics across the full spectrum of conservation biology, biodiversity management and sustainable resource use.

Recent or current projects cover topics such as:
• tolerating tigers: do local beliefs offset human-carnivore conflicts
• pre- and post-release monitoring of chimpanzees in the Parc National du Haut Niger, Guinea, West Africa
• chameleon trade and conservation in Madagascar
• global biodiversity hotspots and extinction risk
• conservation genetics of the critically endangered Seychelles paradise flycatcher
• securing the conservation of biodiversity across administrative levels and spatial, temporal and ecological scales
• market-based schemes for conservation in La Primavera Forest, Mexico
• identifying motivations for compliance: illegal carnivore killing in Taiwan
• monitoring the factors that influence rhino managers’ decision making
• biodiversity and ecosystem processes in human-modified tropical forests
• mapping the Falklands: facilitating systematic conservation planning and implementation.

Cover: courtesy of Dr Zoe Davies
Dynamic publishing culture

External relationships
We have affiliations around the world, including the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust; the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Fauna & Flora International, Indonesia; the Chimpanzee Conservation Centre, Guinea; South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, Taiwan; Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA); Applied Environmental Research Foundation (AERF); and the nearby Powell-Cotton Museum.

Postgraduate resources
The members associated with the DICE research centre have various long-term study sites around the world and maintain an ecology field trials area and field laboratory on the University campus. The School of Anthropology and Conservation (SAC) has excellent computing facilities and research laboratories for molecular genetics, ecology, ethnobotany and biological anthropology. The DICE research seminar series, where renowned external academics come to present their research to staff and students, runs in the autumn term, while the high-profile DICE annual lecture is held in the spring.

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The School of Anthropology and Conservation has a very good record for postgraduate employment and academic continuation: 93% of our postgraduate students, who graduated in 2013, found a job within six months or continued on to a PhD.

DICE programmes combine academic theory with practical field experience to develop students who are highly employable within government, NGOs and the private sector.

Our alumni progress on to a wide range of organisations across the world, undertaking work that utilises the knowledge and skills they have developed through their studies. Examples of the work our graduates do and the organisations they are employed by include: consultancy for a Darwin Initiative project in West Sumatra; Wildlife Management Officer in Kenya; Chief of the Biodiversity Unit, United Nations Environment Programme; Research and Analysis Programme Leader for TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network; Freshwater Programme Officer, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Head of the Ecosystem Assessment Programme, United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC); Community-Based Natural Resource Manager, WWF; Leader of the WWF Tigers Alive Initiative; Managing Partner at Althelia Climate Fund; Wildlife Officer at Heritage Council, Ireland; and Programme Officer, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.

Jessica Chappell
MSc in Conservation Biology
Shortly after leaving Kent I was lucky enough to secure a role with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) as a Nature Policy Officer at their headquarters. I develop RSPB policy and advocate this to the Government and other interests, in order to ensure that our native wildlife is given the protection that it needs. I love knowing that I am making a difference by standing up for nature. My interdisciplinary knowledge of wildlife conservation issues gained while studying at Kent, and the communication skills that I was able to develop throughout the course, were vital in getting me here and continue to assist me as I carry out the role.
Rodgers Lubilo  
**MSc in Conservation and Rural Development**

I work for the Legal Assistance Centre in Namibia supporting institutional development and governance in Namibia’s communal conservancies in the Caprivi region. My main role is to support effective community-based natural resources management. This involves helping local communities, through the conservancy programme, to manage and generate tangible incomes and benefits from their natural resources, and to support systems that lead to improvement in livelihoods, and biodiversity conservation.

I work with the local rural leadership, and with donors and NGOs to ensure that the principles of communal conservancies are met and that sustainable wildlife and natural resource conservation contribute to rural development.

Abigail Wills  
**MSc by Research in Biodiversity Management**

I began working as an International Communications Adviser for a local Tanzanian NGO, Mpingo Conservation & Development Initiative (MCDI), within one year of completing my Master’s. I design communications materials, including reports, brochures, website content and funding proposals to boost awareness of the important work we do supporting rural Tanzanians to secure ownership of, manage, and benefit from, their forests, so incentivising community forest conservation. I also help local NGO staff to improve their English and provide technical advice to guide forest and socio-economic monitoring fieldwork. I enjoy the diversity of my job and the skills I acquired at DICE – project planning and management, technical fieldwork, and scientific writing skills – allowed me to secure it and perform effectively.

Rob Pickles  
**PhD in Biodiversity Management**

After my PhD I obtained a Commonwealth Fellowship from the Canadian Government and moved to Trent University, Ontario.

My project focuses on one of Canada’s most iconic species: the moose. A common sight in the great boreal forest that stretches across Canada, in recent years in the south of the species’ range, some populations have declined to near extinction. The project is both an investigation into the causes of recent declines and an assessment as to how the populations are likely to change in the future in response to climate change and associated shifts in parasitism, predation and competition. Most recently, I have been using ecological niche modelling to determine the distribution of some of the most pathogenic of the moose’s parasites – the brainworm!
TAUGHT PATHWAYS AND PROGRAMMES

There are a number of taught pathways on offer within conservation management and science, so you can choose the degree title that best reflects your interests.

All the MSc pathways follow a common pattern, with six months of coursework and five months spent on a research project. Across the MSc pathways there are four compulsory modules, plus a research project, and then a suite of optional modules that allow you to choose the academic content that best suits your needs, and contains an appropriate balance of natural and social sciences topics. We also run an MA in Anthropology and Conservation (see p13) and a PGDip in Endangered Species Recovery (see p14).

Please visit our website www.kent.ac.uk/sac for up-to-date information on new programmes/pathways we are developing including: Conservation Science Communication; Conservation and Biodiversity Law; Conservation and Statistical Ecology; and Conservation and Emerging Technologies.

In exceptional circumstances, we will admit applicants without a first degree if their professional career and experience shows academic achievement of a high enough standard.

Pathways run subject to sufficient demand.

MSc course modules

Compulsory modules

All students take:

- Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Conservation
- Research Skills for Natural Sciences
- Research Methods for Social Sciences
- Dissertation Project – Conservation.

Optional modules

- Advanced Topics in Primate Behaviour
- Conservation and Community Development
- Current Issues in Primate Conservation
- Economics of Biodiversity Conservation
- Ecotourism and Rural Development Field Course
- Facilitation Skills for Conservation Managers
- Integrated Species Conservation and Management Field Course
- International Wildlife Trade
- Leadership Skills for Conservation Managers
- Managing Protected Areas
- Population and Evolutionary Biology
- Principles and Practice of Ecotourism
- Principles of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing
- Special Topics in Conservation.

Additional optional modules may be available; please see our postgraduate course pages at www.kent.ac.uk/pg for details.

Assessment

Assessment is carried out primarily through continuous assessment of coursework with written examinations for a few modules. The research dissertation is written up in the format of a paper for publication.
CONSERVATION BIOLOGY (MSc) PATHWAY

Location: Canterbury.
Attendance: One year full-time, two years part-time.
Start: September.

Pathway description
Modern conservation science transcends the traditional boundaries of biology, ecology and environmental management. Today's managers of biodiversity need to be versed in a broad range of specialist fields, from population ecology and human community development, through to international wildlife trade and the economics of conservation, as well as the latest techniques in endangered species recovery.

Our MSc in Conservation Biology is an interdisciplinary pathway that integrates all of these aspects of conservation biology. It is designed for wildlife managers with practical experience in international conservation work looking to acquire formal scientific training, as well as students with academic qualifications looking to develop a career in conservation.

Course content
You take the compulsory modules listed on p6, plus:
• Population and Evolutionary Biology.

You also choose four optional modules (see list of options on p6), two of which can be chosen from modules offered by schools across the University.

Distinctive features
Our conservation biology pathway is distinctive because we integrate both the natural and social sciences in our teaching. You benefit not only from formal lectures and seminars, but also from residential courses run at the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust at Slimbridge and at the Durrell Conservation Academy at Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Jersey.

The mix of formal academic training alongside the opportunity to gain practical field conservation experience means that students from this programme take a very comprehensive set of skills into the workplace.

Entry requirements
A good second class honours degree or better in a relevant subject; a good honours degree in other subjects together with relevant practical experience.

Studying at Kent also gives you the opportunity to benefit directly from DICE’s extensive links with international conservation organisations when developing your research project. Consequently, you can gain field research experience across the world. Past students have surveyed amphibian populations on the Seychelles and Madagascar, observed behaviour of endangered lizards in St Lucia, worked with NGOs on deforestation issues in Indonesia and assisted stakeholders on large-scale conservation planning projects in southern Africa.

“I think that having classmates from various areas of the world, together with the quality of the professors and their experience in conservation, made discussions a great learning experience.”

Nicolás Galvez

Jim Groomebridge
CONSERVATION AND INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE TRADE (MSC) PATHWAY

Location: Canterbury.
Attendance: One year full-time, two years part-time.
Start: September.

Pathway description
International wildlife trade is big business and ranges from high-volume timber and fishery products to the more traditional wildlife products from endangered species used in horticultural, pet, leather and medicinal trades. International trade and over-use are implicated in the decline of around one third of threatened species. Equally, many of the world’s poorest people depend on the use or sale of wildlife products for their livelihood. Meeting the twin goals of reducing poverty and stemming the rate of species loss requires improved management of trade in natural resources.

This pathway is designed for people from areas such as government management and scientific authorities, NGOs, international agencies and donors who are working to improve sustainability of wildlife trade. It examines a number of mechanisms for delivering sustainable wildlife trade, especially the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), with whom DICE has developed a Memorandum of Understanding to offer this pathway.

Course content
You take the compulsory modules listed on p6, plus:
• International Wildlife Trade.
You also choose four optional modules (see list of options on p6), two of which can be chosen from modules offered by schools across the University.

Distinctive features
• This pathway offers an opportunity to specialise in a critically important field of biodiversity conservation, and to benefit from DICE members’ expertise and in-depth knowledge of CITES and wildlife trade. You also have opportunities to engage with some of the leading organisations involved in the monitoring of wildlife trade and enforcement of regulations.

• This pathway examines the dynamics of international wildlife trade from all angles: the practical mechanisms set up to regulate wildlife trade; the ecological assumptions, social, cultural and economic drivers of trade, along with the challenges, pressures and the political environment that underlies relevant international law and policy.

Entry requirements
A good second class honours degree or better in a relevant subject; a good honours degree in other subjects together with relevant experience.
CONSERVATION AND PRIMATE BEHAVIOUR (MSc) PATHWAY

Location: Canterbury.
Attendance: One year full-time, two years part-time.
Start: September.

Pathway description
Many of the world’s non-human primates (NHPs) face extinction due to habitat destruction, fragmentation, overexploitation, disease and/or increased competition over resources with their human relatives. In spite of the impressive behavioural flexibility and capacity for adaptation of numerous NHP species, global trends are alarming.

This pathway promotes an interdisciplinary approach and understanding of primate conservation issues. A combination of ecological, spatial, behavioural, and social methodologies and perspectives provides promising avenues to inform and achieve effective conservation management and to help combat the many challenges. This pathway highlights the benefits of incorporating an understanding of local human communities’ experiences and a sound knowledge of primate behavioural and landscape ecology to foster successful conservation of non-human primates. It familiarises you with a diverse set of practical and theoretical tools to successfully pursue a future role in primate conservation.

Course content
You take the compulsory modules listed on p6, plus:
• Advanced Topics in Primate Behaviour
• Current Issues in Primate Conservation.

You also choose three optional modules (see list of options on p6), two of which can be chosen from modules offered by schools across the University.

Distinctive features
• A wide suite of modules including social science approaches to conservation, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) skills and protected area management enabling you to design a learning syllabus to suit your individual interests.
• Access to a unique network of collaborations with international NGOs and projects around the world from the neotropics to Africa and Southeast Asia, zoological institutions across Europe and primate sanctuaries globally.
• Teaching by research-active experts in both conservation and biological anthropology; drawing on extensive field research experience with primates and biodiversity conservation.

Entry requirements
A good second class honours degree or better in a relevant subject, a good honours degree in other subjects together with relevant practical experience.
CONSERVATION PROJECT MANAGEMENT (MSc) PATHWAY

**Location:** Canterbury and the Durrell Conservation Academy at Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Jersey. 
**Attendance:** One year full-time, two years part-time.  
**Start:** September.

**Pathway description**
The management of species, habitats and ecosystems increasingly draws upon principles and practices from other disciplines, such as business, marketing and human resources. This MSc pathway draws upon the extensive conservation project management experience of DICE research centre members and their links with the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (Durrell), and equips practitioners with the skills and tools they need to manage conservation projects effectively. It is suitable for managers of conservation projects who wish to build on their existing skills, or conservation practitioners who wish to move into a project management role.

**Course content**
You take the compulsory modules listed on p6, plus:
- Leadership Skills for Conservation Managers.

You also choose four optional modules (see list of options on p6), two of which can be chosen from modules offered by schools across the University.

**Distinctive features**
- Lecturers are research active, world-leading academics with practical experience of conservation project management in locations across the world.
- DICE’s unique relationship with Durrell in terms of collaborative research and training means that students on this pathway are ideally placed to benefit from Durrell’s world-class track record in leading conservation projects across the world.
- You benefit from particular courses on leadership and facilitation skills which are delivered by staff experienced in project management within conservation.

- This pathway is unusual because it provides you with some of the skills necessary to manage field teams and endangered species conservation projects, as well as equipping you with a solid background in relevant topics of conservation biology.

**Entry requirements**
A good second class honours degree or better in a relevant subject, a good honours degree in other subjects together with relevant practical experience.
CONSERVATION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MSc) PATHWAY

Location: Canterbury.
Attendance: One year full-time, two years part-time.
Start: September.

Pathway description
The relationship between conservation and rural development can best be described as an uneasy alliance: on the one hand, there is substantial common ground between them in terms of preventing environmental degradation, but on the other, they are often in direct conflict. This pathway explores the issues underlying the conservation/rural development debate and offers practical and methodological tools for working at the interface between the two.

Course content
You take the compulsory modules listed on p6, plus:
• Conservation and Community Development.

You also choose four optional modules (see list of options on p6), two of which can be chosen from modules offered by schools across the University.

Distinctive features
As far as we are aware, this pathway is unique in providing substantive natural and social science training in both conservation and relevant aspects of rural development. DICE’s position within the School of Anthropology and Conservation means we are well placed to offer consolidated interdisciplinary training. The pathway includes field trips to conservation sites and leading conservation institutions, and there are also weekly talks by invited speakers, including leading experts in conservation policy and practice.

Entry requirements
A good second class honours degree or better in a relevant subject, a good honours degree in other subjects together with relevant practical experience.

“The Conservation and Rural Development MSc offers a wide scope of subjects, so I have been able to define my own learning path. Through varied disciplines, and in close contact with experts from all around the world, I have developed critical thinking skills, which I can now apply to find ways to reconcile human needs and conservation concerns.”

Arantzazu Acha de la Presa
MSc Conservation and Rural Development
CONSERVATION AND TOURISM (MSC) PATHWAY

Location: Canterbury.
Attendance: One year full-time, two years part-time.
Start: September.

Pathway description
Tourism, the world’s largest service industry, is estimated to involve over 10% of the global population in one way or another. One form, ‘nature-based tourism’, is said to be growing at ten times the sector average, and since much focuses on protected areas and rare/endangered species, it should follow principles of sustainability – ensuring minimal environmental damage and benefiting local people. This pathway examines key issues relating to tourism and conservation and is highly relevant to those working for NGOs, consultancy firms, contractors, tour operators, international agencies and donors, as well as conservation managers and community-based conservationists.

Course content
You take the compulsory modules listed on p6, plus:
• Principles and Practice of Ecotourism.

You also choose four optional modules (see list of options on p6), two of which can be chosen from modules offered by schools across the University.

Distinctive features
This pathway offers you a critical engagement with the subject of conservation and tourism, by exploring the wide range of environmental, social and other impacts. It also considers difficult questions that we might ask ourselves about our role as conservationists, for instance, in relation to the underlying values we might introduce into different cultures around the world as part of our ‘mission’ and what the historical roots and repercussions of these might be.

The Ecotourism and Rural Development Field Course, is a residential module, held previously in Scotland and Malta. It looks at the practice of tourism and its effects on wildlife, the environment, local economies and culture. This module is highly recommended to students on this pathway.

Entry requirements
A good second class honours degree or better in a relevant subject, a good honours degree in other subjects together with relevant practical experience.
ANTHROPOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (MA) PROGRAMME

Location: Canterbury.
Attendance: One year full-time, two years part-time.
Start: September.

Programme description
This challenging and innovative MA programme provides a distinctive combination of knowledge and training in social anthropology and environmental conservation. It qualifies students to pursue careers and doctoral studies in both of the two disciplines – anthropology and conservation. The programme encourages a critical perspective on the practice and epistemology of conservation and anthropology, paving the way for the integration of the two disciplines methodologically and theoretically.

Course content
You take the following compulsory modules and two or three optional modules. The third term is spent working on your dissertation.

Compulsory modules
• Anthropology and Conservation
• Anthropological Research Methods 2
• Theory and Ethnography in Social Anthropology 1
• Research Methods for Social Science
Or
• Anthropological Research Methods 1

For module descriptions, please see: www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modulecatalogue

Distinctive features
This MA builds on the co-existence of the disciplines of anthropology and conservation within the same School. Drawing upon the specialist skills of staff in the two disciplines, it offers not only a distinctive and exciting mix of anthropological and conservation sub-topics and skills, but also, and more importantly, the opportunity to integrate the two disciplines at Master’s level.

• An original and exciting approach to learning about human-environmental interactions, environmental disputes and politics, and the interrelationship of local populations with agents and policies of conservation.
• The development of a greater understanding of the socio-cultural dimension of conservation.
• Subjects that touch on all aspects of the relationship between anthropology and conservation.

Entry requirements
A good honours degree (2.1 or above) from any discipline.

“This programme is unique in the world. It provides an opportunity to draw together our academic strengths in both anthropology and conservation, and expose students to research approaches presented in an interdisciplinary context and at an advanced level.”

Dr Dimitrios Theodossopoulos
Programme Convenor
ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY (PGDIP) PROGRAMME

Location: Mauritius.
Attendance: Six months.
Start: April.

Programme description
This programme has been developed by Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (Durrell) to capitalise on its long-standing links with the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (MWF) and DICE. Students registered on this diploma are based entirely on the island of Mauritius where they are immersed within a world-renowned species and habitat restoration programme, spearheaded by Durrell in collaboration with MWF. This exciting approach to postgraduate training means you learn cutting-edge conservation techniques and gain world-class hands-on experience in the field.

Compulsory modules
• Biology and Ecology of Small Populations
• Conservation Education and Stakeholder Management
• Leading and Managing Conservation Projects
• Pilot Project in Endangered Species Recovery
• Techniques for Recovering Endangered Species

Distinctive features
This distinctive programme combines an academic qualification with intensive in-situ fieldwork experience on Mauritius.

Durrell is one of the foremost species conservation organisations in the world, having recovered many endangered species from critically low numbers through intensive, hands-on species management. Durrell therefore complements the academic credentials of SAC and DICE with its evidence-based species recovery efforts on the ground.

Both DICE and Durrell have a long-term partnership in conservation research and training with MWF, which has successfully led the recovery efforts for a large number of threatened endemic species. MWF’s work has saved a minimum of five endemic species from extinction, as well as pioneering ecosystem recovery techniques for restoring whole-island ecosystems.

You learn, through hands-on practical training, the field techniques involved in endangered species recovery and habitat restoration. In addition, you learn the leadership, management and facilitation skills you need to run your own conservation projects.

On completion of the programme, you have a thorough understanding of the theory and practice of endangered species and habitat recovery, having acquired field experience in one of the world’s most successful species and habitat restoration programmes.

Entry requirements
A good second class honours degree or better in a relevant subject; a good honours degree in other subjects, together with relevant practical experience.

For more information or to apply for this programme, visit: www.durrell.org
TAUGHT MODULES

Below is a list of modules currently offered. Please note that some modules may not be available in a particular year. For this reason, minor adjustments to programme structure may sometimes be necessary.

For detailed descriptions of modules for Anthropology and Conservation, visit: www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modulecatalogue

Advanced Topics in Primate Behaviour
This module provides you with an understanding of primate behaviour and ecology, and how this allows us to better understand the evolutionary biology of human behaviour. Set within an evolutionary framework, this module combines established findings with the latest research.

Conservation and Community Development
You are given an integrated view of theoretical and practical approaches to conservation, and community aspects of rural development. Themes covered include: community organisation – institutions, representation and decision-making; wider perspectives – project cycles and multi-stakeholder processes; and policy and practice – the relationship between conservation and rural development.

Current Issues in Primate Conservation
This module highlights the array of threats, issues and consequences of anthropogenic threats and environmental changes on the status, behaviour and conservation of non-human primates (NHPs). You also become familiar with a range of field methodologies employed in the survey and monitoring of wild NHP populations in and outside protected areas.

Economics of Biodiversity Conservation
You are introduced to key economic theories and concepts such as the laws of demand and supply, market competition and economic efficiency, and the market failure paradigm (property rights, public goods, transaction costs and externalities).

Ecotourism and Rural Development Field Course
This module is based on a five-day field trip within the UK. It offers you the opportunity to learn first-hand from local businesses and government agencies about practical aspects of nature-based tourism and its growing importance to rural development and biodiversity conservation in the UK.

Facilitation Skills for Conservation Managers
The module draws from social theory on how teams function and how decisions are made and uses practical examples from the conservation world to demonstrate how to, and how not to, manage the decision-making process.
TAUGHT MODULES (CONT)

Integrated Species Conservation and Management Field Course
Tackling conservation problems at the species level of organisation is both attractive and popular. In order to achieve this, it is important to understand how ‘species’ are defined and how they have evolved and become extinct over evolutionary timescales. This module draws together the various approaches to species conservation by appraising the structure, function and implementation of species recovery programmes.

Leadership Skills for Conservation Managers
You begin by reflecting on the qualities required in a leader and how a leader’s management style can impact on others in an organisation. You consider the extent to which we can apply management theory to the practice of endangered species and habitat recovery and the people involved in making it happen.

Managing Protected Areas
In lectures, seminars and field trips you study the following topics: the concept of a protected area; the significance of size in protected area design; international designations of protected areas; sustainable development of and sustainable use of protected areas; planning and management; common threats to protected areas; governance; economics of protected areas; and management effectiveness evaluation. This module reviews the practice of setting land aside for such activities and managing protected areas.

Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Conservation
This module provides students from a range of disciplinary backgrounds with a broad overview of different natural and social science approaches to conservation. It introduces you to the fundamental concepts that underpin biodiversity management, as well as facilitating the development of professional skills that will enable you to work successfully with individuals and organisations across the environmental and conservation sectors. The focus is on understanding how different disciplinary perspectives can contribute to problem-solving in practice.

Population and Evolutionary Biology
You are introduced to evolutionary and population biology, starting with the main evolutionary processes that influence populations and how they evolve, leading into the established demographic theory that underpins population biology. A practical component of the module focuses on molecular genetic techniques and how to interpret such genetic data.
Principles and Practice of Ecotourism
You are introduced to the importance of the growing tourism industry to biodiversity conservation and gain the analytical skills and methodologies required to effectively manage ecotourism to natural areas, whether in protected areas, or on private or communal land. The emphasis throughout is on implementing the principles and practice of ecotourism.

Research Skills for Natural Sciences
The module reviews the approaches used by natural scientists in the design and analysis of research projects. The principles of experimental design and how these can be applied to field projects is explained, together with the nature of both quantitative and qualitative data. An introduction to sampling strategies and the role of probability in inferential statistics leads into the role of descriptive statistics and measures of variability in data exploration.

Research Methods for Social Sciences
The module begins with a broad overview of social science approaches to research, highlighting contrasts with standard natural science techniques and focusing on the qualitative-quantitative divide. You go on to examine the principles of integrated research design and mixed-method approaches.

Special Topics in Conservation
You undertake a detailed analysis or review of a specific topic of interest that relates directly to your programme of study. The topic of interest may be explored using one or more of the following approaches: comprehensive literature review, systematic evidence review, collection and analysis of a small field data set, analysis of an existing data set, laboratory practical exercise, computer modelling.

“I have thoroughly enjoyed all my studies here. I am finding my PhD the best yet! I love my work, my supervisor and the facilities here. I love being on campus regularly and feeling like a real member of the School.”

Hazel Jackson completed her BSc and MSc at DICE before embarking on her PhD supervised by Dr Jim Groombridge
RESEARCH DEGREES

The School has a long tradition of high-quality research among its staff. The strong research culture provides excellent opportunities for study for a postgraduate research degree.

Postgraduate research can take place in any subject area which qualified members of the School are able to supervise. For further information, please refer to the staff pages on our website: www.kent.ac.uk/sac/staff-profiles

Biodiversity Management
MSc by Research, PhD

Location: Canterbury.
Start: At any time but preferably in September.

The research degree programme (which is supported by the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE) research centre) carries the generic title of Biodiversity Management, in order to allow a student to undertake any relevant research project that relates to conserving and managing biodiversity. With the varied research interests of the School of Anthropology and Conservation (SAC) and DICE staff, this continues to allow research on a wide variety of projects on different organisms or systems and in different habitats and countries. There are, therefore, specific research projects underway on species conservation, wildlife management law, tourism and conservation, and the sustainable uses of biodiversity.

SAC and DICE encourage research students to undertake original research to submit as a thesis on important topics related to conserving and managing biodiversity.

Since it was founded in 1989, DICE has graduated over 90 research students and, as with all its other activities, the major characteristics of the research degree programme in DICE are its international and interdisciplinary focus.

Academic programme

A candidate undertaking a research degree must submit a thesis that demonstrates an ability to undertake an original investigation, to test a hypothesis and to understand the relationship of your field of study to a wider field of knowledge. Additionally, in the case of a doctorate, the thesis submitted must be an original contribution to knowledge or understanding in the field of investigation. We strongly encourage students to also write-up their research for publication in peer reviewed journals.

External students and split PhDs

SAC and DICE may consider two additional options for registration of overseas students.

External students

First, we are willing to consider registration as an external student. As an external student you need to establish arrangements with a local supervisor and give details of this arrangement to the School. You also need to ensure that you have the facilities needed, such as laboratory, library and computing facilities, to conduct your research and complete your dissertation. We ensure that purely external students have considerable contact with SAC, spending periods at the University, as well as being visited in their home country by their SAC/DICE supervisor.

Split PhD

The second option is to register for a split PhD, which allows you to spend a period undertaking fieldwork in your home country, while also completing the period of registration needed to complete a PhD.

The usual pattern of a split PhD is that you spend one year at SAC and two years in the field. The period at SAC is usually divided in the following way. At the beginning of your programme, you spend one term (three months) preparing a detailed project proposal. Once you have completed your fieldwork, you then return to SAC for two terms (nine months) to write your thesis.
For the PhD in Biodiversity Management, students admitted to a split PhD must be associated with a range of approved institutions, comprising conservation NGOs and relevant national wildlife authorities or museums.

Master of Science by Research (MSc)
These are one-year full-time or two-year part-time programmes. Candidates research and write a thesis under the supervision of one or two academic staff.

MSc by Research with Operation Wallacea
The MSc Biodiversity Management by research may be undertaken in conjunction with Operation Wallacea, with fieldwork taking place at one of their overseas research centres. Students must agree their potential research project with a SAC/DICE staff member and meet both University of Kent and Operation Wallacea entrance requirements. Further information is available at: www.opwall.com/senior-thesis-dissertation/masters-by-research

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
The PhD is a three-year full-time and five-year part-time programme. Candidates research and write a thesis of a maximum of 100,000 words under the supervision of an academic team. Progress is carefully monitored through the duration of the programme.

The first year includes coursework, especially methods modules for students who need this additional training. In general, you work closely with one supervisor throughout your research, although you have a committee of three (including your primary supervisor) overseeing your progress. In order to ensure a good, close working relationship with your supervisor(s), we encourage you to make contact – preferably through email – with staff prior to applying, to discuss research possibilities.

Research strengths
SAC and its affiliated research centre DICE are Britain’s leading research and postgraduate training school dedicated to conserving biodiversity and the processes that support ecosystems and people. SAC and DICE members have collaborated on projects embracing the ecological, economic and social aspects of biodiversity conservation throughout the world. This has been achieved by staff who combine on-the-ground conservation implementation with world-renowned research.

Research training and supervision
All full-time research students have a supervisory committee, which includes a main supervisor who oversees the day-to-day supervision of the project. In conjunction with the supervisory committee, an individual training programme is devised for each student that includes both the generic and specific skills required to undertake the project.

SAC/DICE is unusual in that it also has a Research Student Programme Convenor, who oversees the progress of all students to make sure that their training needs are being met. Because of the diversity and international nature of many field projects, the amount of time that research students spend at SAC varies, but local supervision is usually organised for those students spending considerable time overseas.

Choosing a research topic
If you are interested in registering for a research degree in Biodiversity Management, you should initially contact the SAC/DICE staff member whose research is the most relevant to your interests. You should include a curriculum vitae plus a short research proposal, a provisional budget and potential funding sources with all enquiries.
ACADEMIC STAFF

Our academic staff have excellent international research reputations as well as a vast amount of practical experience in the field. For details visit their web pages: www.kent.ac.uk/sac/staff-profiles

Dr Peter Bennett
Reader in Biodiversity and Evolutionary Ecology

Core expertise
Evolution, ecology and conservation of birds; biodiversity hotspots; life history evolution and extinction risk; marine mammals; wildlife disease.

Dr Richard Bodmer
Reader in Conservation Ecology

Core expertise
Population dynamics and community ecology of rainforest mammals; community-based conservation, sustainable use, wildlife management in tropical ecosystems.

Dr Ian Bride
Senior Lecturer in Biodiversity Conservation

Core expertise
Conservation education; guiding and interpretation; agroforestry; practical conservation skills; conservation and the creative arts; conservation and tourism.

Dr Zoe Davies
Senior Lecturer in Biodiversity Conservation

Core expertise
Conservation intervention effectiveness; conservation finance/investment; species/assemble responses to environmental change; relationships between biodiversity and ecosystem service provision; urban ecology; human-wildlife interactions.

Professor Richard Griffiths
Professor of Biological Conservation

Core expertise
Ecology and conservation of amphibians and reptiles; effects of environmental change on threatened species; survey and monitoring protocols for biodiversity.

Dr Jim Groombridge
Reader in Biodiversity Conservation

Core expertise
Conservation of highly threatened species; conservation genetics of small populations; evolutionary genetics, phylogenetics and biogeography.

Dr Tatyana Humle
Lecturer in Conservation and Primate Behaviour

Core expertise
Great ape conservation and primate behavioural ecology; ethnoprimatology; cultural primatology; primate rehabilitation and reintroduction; human wildlife interactions.
Professor Douglas MacMillan
Professor of Conservation and Applied Resource Economics

Core expertise
Economics of wildlife conservation, the wildlife trade and poaching; human wildlife conflict; conservation planning, forest and biodiversity valuation; land-use change.

Dr Helen Newing
Lecturer in Conservation Social Science

Core expertise
Participation, collaboration and environmental governance; Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs); interdisciplinarity.

Dr David Roberts
Senior Lecturer in Biodiversity Conservation

Core expertise
International wildlife trade, particularly over the internet; species detectability and extinction; orchid ecology, particularly response to climate change, epiphyte communities and seed dispersal.

Dr Bob Smith
Senior Research Fellow

Core expertise
Designing conservation landscapes and protected area networks, especially as part of long-term projects in southeast Africa and the English Channel.

Dr Freya St John
Research Associate

Core expertise
Interface between biodiversity conservation and human populations who use natural resources.

Dr Joseph Tzanopoulos
Senior Lecturer in Landscape and Biodiversity Conservation

Core expertise
Reconciling biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in rural areas; landscape ecology; nature conservation policy and governance; GIS; monitoring, modelling and impact assessment of land-use changes; agroecology.

Dr Matthew Struebig
Lecturer in Biological Conservation

Core expertise
Tropical ecology and conservation; impact of land-use and climate change; biodiversity assessment and analysis; species distribution modelling and spatial analysis.
 Entry requirements
For specific entry requirements for taught programmes, please refer to individual programme entries.

Biodiversity Management MSc by Research, PhD
A good second class honours degree or better in a relevant subject; a good honours degree in other subjects together with relevant practical experience.

English language
The University requires all non-native speakers of English to reach a minimum standard of proficiency in written and spoken English before beginning a postgraduate degree.

You should provide us with one of the following: an IELTS certificate with a minimum score of 6.5, including 6.0 in reading and writing and 5.5 in listening and speaking; or a Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) with a score of 62, including 60 in all four subtests.

If you do not reach the required standard, you can apply for one of our pre-sessional courses. For further information, please see www.kent.ac.uk/internationalpathways

Only English language tests taken up to a maximum of two years prior to the date of registration are accepted for admission to the University. Please note that if your university studies have been completed entirely in English, you may be exempt from providing an English test certificate. Please contact the International Development team for clarification (www.kent.ac.uk/internationalstudent/contact-us).

Making an application
You can apply for a Kent higher degree electronically via our website at www.kent.ac.uk/courses/postgrad/apply

If you do not have access to the web, please contact the Recruitment and Admissions Office at the address on p23, for a paper copy of the application form.

If you are applying for a research degree, it is strongly recommended that you contact the School of Anthropology and Conservation in the first instance so that you have an opportunity to discuss your study plans with the programme director.

Application deadline
There is no fixed deadline for applications. However, we strongly recommend that you apply as soon as possible and no later than three months before the start of term. If you wish to apply for on-campus accommodation, an application must be made online by the end of July.

Tuition fees
For the most up-to-date information on tuition fees, please visit www.kent.ac.uk/pg

School enquiries
Please contact:
Postgraduate Office,
School of Anthropology and Conservation,
Marlowe Building
University of Kent,
Canterbury,
Kent CT2 7NR, UK
T: +44 (0)1227 827928
F: +44 (0)1227 827289
E: sacoffice@kent.ac.uk
www.kent.ac.uk/sac

Admissions enquiries
T: +44 (0)1227 827272
www.kent.ac.uk/pg

Terms and conditions: the University reserves the right to make variations to the content and delivery of courses and other services, or to discontinue courses and other services, if such action is reasonably considered to be necessary. If the University discontinues any course, it will endeavour to provide a suitable alternative. To register for a programme of study, all students must agree to abide by the University Regulations (available online at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations).

Data protection: for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons, the University needs to process information about its students. Full registration as a student of the University is subject to your consent to process such information.
European connections

Kent is known as the UK’s European university. Our two main UK campuses, Canterbury and Medway, are located in the southeast of England, close to London, and we also have study locations in Athens, Brussels, Paris and Rome.

We have a diverse, cosmopolitan population with 149 nationalities represented. We also have strong links with universities in Europe, and from Kent, you are around two hours away from Paris and Brussels by train.

World-class research

Kent is one of the UK’s leading research-intensive universities. Our staff work in academic schools engaged in research of international and world-class standing, which means our teaching is informed by some of the best research in the world.

Strong academic community

Kent’s postgraduate students are part of a thriving intellectual community that includes staff and students from all our locations. In addition to lectures, seminars and one-to-one supervisions, you benefit from a rich and stimulating research culture. We have also invested in Woolf College, a modern facility on the Canterbury campus dedicated to postgraduates, which combines accommodation, as well as academic and social space.

A global outlook

Kent has a great international reputation, attracting academic staff and students from around the world. Forty-one per cent of our academic staff are from overseas and our schools are engaged in collaborative research with universities worldwide. We also offer a range of opportunities to study abroad and an approach that is truly global.

The Graduate School

As a postgraduate student, you have the support of the Graduate School, which promotes your academic interests, co-ordinates the Researcher Development Programme and the Global Skills Award and facilitates cross-disciplinary interaction and social networking.

Funding

Kent provides a variety of financial support opportunities for postgraduate students. These range from research studentships, location-specific funding, sport and music scholarships, and funding specifically for overseas fee-paying students. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/pgfunding.

Enhanced career prospects

At Kent, we want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a tough economic environment. During your studies, you acquire a high level of academic knowledge and specialist practical skills.

Location

Canterbury.

Faculty

Faculty of Social Sciences.

School

School of Anthropology and Conservation.

Contact

School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NS
T: +44 (0)1227 827928
F: +44 (0)1227 827289
E: sacoffice@kent.ac.uk

Applications

Online at www.kent.ac.uk/courses/postgrad/apply

We also help you to develop key transferable skills that are essential within the competitive world of work.

Further information

For information about applying to Kent, or to order a copy of the Graduate Prospectus, please contact: The Recruitment and Admissions Office, The Registry, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ, UK
T: +44 (0)1227 827272
www.kent.ac.uk/pg

The University also holds Open Days and postgraduate recruitment events throughout the year. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/visit
COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website: www.kent.ac.uk/visit