CONSERVATION

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

Canterbury
Our postgraduate students have the unique opportunity to be taught by members of The Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE) research centre. DICE staff conduct conservation projects with significant impact across the world.

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 and 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:

• biodiversity and ecosystem processes in human-modified tropical forests, Sabah, Malaysia...
Postgraduate resources

The members of DICE have various long-term research projects around the world, as well as maintaining an ecological 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.

External relationships

We have affiliations around the world, including: the Applied Environmental Research Foundation (AERF); Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA); Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust; Fauna & Flora International (FFI), Indonesia; International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED); International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN); Mauritian Wildlife Foundation; Natural England; Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, Sierra Leone; United Nations Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC); World Wildlife Foundation, United Kingdom, (WWF UK); Zoological Society of London (ZSL); and the Powell-Cotton Museum, which is nearby in Kent.

Dynamic publishing culture

DICE research has been published in high-impact international journals, including Nature, Science, and Current Biology. Staff and postgraduates frequently publish in leading disciplinary journals including Conservation Biology, Conservation Letters, Journal of Applied Ecology, and Global Environmental Change.
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

The School of Anthropology and Conservation has a very good record for postgraduate employment and academic continuation: 94% of our postgraduate students, who graduated in 2016, found a job within six months or continued on to a PhD. Of these, 97% entered a professional role.

DICE programmes combine academic theory with conservation case studies 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: Wildlife Management Officer in Kenya; Chief of the Biodiversity Unit, United Nations Environment Programme; Research and Analysis Programme Leader for TRAFFIC; 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; Conservation Scientist, Chester Zoo; Conservation Programme Manager, Zoological Society of London (ZSL); and Chief Adviser Wildlife Conservation Society, Indonesia.

Leonie Lawrence

MSc in Conservation Biology
After finishing my MSc, I joined Global Canopy Programme, initially working on international climate and forest policy before moving on to researching the supply chains driving tropical deforestation. Since then, I have expanded my work in this area, focusing on palm oil and sustainable investment in my previous role at ZSL, and recently joining WCS as Regional Technical Adviser on forest risk commodities. I am currently based in Indonesia, working to reduce the impacts of agriculture and its related supply chains, including those for coffee and copra, on protected areas.

DICE was invaluable in teaching me about the complexities of conservation, the challenges we face and the range of skills needed for effective interdisciplinary conservation. I loved my time at DICE and now being part of the wide-reaching network of DICE alumni.
Sam Leslie
MSc in Conservation and Rural Development
After completing my MSc at DICE, I moved to Cambodia to work as an intern for Fauna & Flora International to support the country’s only MSc programme in biodiversity conservation. Using skills I learnt at DICE, I assisted students in designing their thesis research, analysing results and polishing their final submissions as well as teaching two modules. Through this work, I was able to build a strong network and have been working as an independent consultant in Cambodia and Bhutan, on a range of exciting topics including livelihood surveys, ecotourism and human wildlife conflict compensation.

Rachel Ashegbofe Ikemeh
MSc in Conservation Project Management
I am Chief Executive and Director of the SW Niger Delta Forest Project, Nigeria. We are pioneering conservation efforts for threatened forest landscapes and primate populations in southern Nigeria. In addition to project management, I develop and implement biodiversity action plans, management plans and species-based conservation plans for the private sector, governments and NGOs.

The knowledge and experience I gained at DICE has been invaluable. The faculty members were excellent mentors; I felt empowered, which led me to take on professional roles. For example, I am the Co-Vice Chair for the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group African Section and am a facilitator for Women in Primatology – a new international association that supports female primatologists.

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!
There are a number of taught pathways on offer, so you can choose the degree that best reflects your interests.

All the MSc pathways follow a common pattern, with 24 weeks of teaching and the remaining time set aside for research and private study, including 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 you, and contains an appropriate balance of natural and social sciences topics. You may take up to two wild modules from those available across the University.

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
- Integrated Species Conservation and Management Field Course
- International Wildlife Trade – Achieving Sustainability
- 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 www.kent.ac.uk/pg for details.

Assessment

Assessment is carried out through continuous assessment of coursework. The research dissertation is written up in the format of a paper for publication.

DID YOU KNOW?

Since 1991, there have been over 650 taught MSc graduates from 85 countries, many of whom now have successful full-time conservation careers.
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.

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, for example, have surveyed amphibian populations on the Seychelles and Madagascar, measured the impact of climate change on large mammals in the Peruvian Amazon, worked with NGOs on deforestation issues in Indonesia and designed conservation corridors in South Africa.

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.

“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
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 overuse 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).

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.

Course content
You take the compulsory modules listed on p6, plus:
• International Wildlife Trade – Achieving Sustainability.
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:
• Current Issues in Primate Conservation.

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
• 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
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, 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 social science and protected area management 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.

// DID YOU KNOW? //
DICE is an international community; our alumni come from 96 countries.
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
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 ten per cent of the global population and provides employment, government revenues and new livelihood opportunities for many communities. ‘Nature-based tourism’ is said to be growing at ten times the sector average and, since this often involves protected areas and rare/endangered species, it should follow principles of sustainability – ensuring minimal environmental damage and benefiting local people. This MSc pathway examines key issues relating to tourism and conservation and is highly relevant to those working for NGOs, government tourism departments, consultancy firms, contractors, tour operators, international agencies and donors, as well as conservation managers, planners 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, economic and other impacts. You consider difficult questions, 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.
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
Conservation 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.

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.

International Wildlife Trade – Achieving Sustainability
You are guided through the steps of implementing a legal framework, from the adoption of national wildlife trade policies, prioritisation of species for management intervention, making sustainability findings and providing incentives for conservation, through to the multilateral governance structures.

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;
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.

Principles of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing
You are introduced to the theory and practice of GIS and remote sensing and to a range of methods for collection, management and interpretation of spatial data. Particular attention is paid to the development of the analytical skills needed to deal with spatial data using GIS.

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.

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.

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.

“Be assured that choosing to come to the University of Kent will be, by far, one of the best decisions you’ll ever make in your life. With just the right mix of academia and vibrant social events, you are guaranteed an education comparable to no other in one of England’s safest and most picturesque counties, Kent!”

Oleta Williams
MSc Conservation and Rural Development
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.

Our innovative and cutting-edge research develops the science that underpins conservation and tackles the more applied questions of how biodiversity can survive in this ever more crowded world.

Postgraduate research can take place in any subject area which qualified members of the School are able to supervise. For further information, refer to the staff information on p20 or visit: 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 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 economics, wildlife trade, 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, over 110 research students have graduated from DICE 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.

**PhD based on published works**

This opportunity may suit graduates, usually of at least seven years standing, who have already developed their research skills to doctoral level and published extensively during the course of their careers inside and outside academia.

The degree is awarded to those who are able to submit published works which form a coherent body of research. The works are required to be timely and current, demonstrating the use of appropriate research methodology and adhering to the University’s regulations for Research Programmes of Study. Additionally, candidates should usually hold a first or upper second class honours degree or equivalent experience.

For further details on all these opportunities please contact the Director of Graduate Studies via sacadmmissions@kent.ac.uk

**External PhD 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**
A split PhD allows you to spend a period undertaking fieldwork in your home country. The usual pattern of a split PhD is that you spend one year at SAC and two years in the field. 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 academic staff.

**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 80,000 words under the supervision of an academic team. Progress is carefully monitored through the duration of the programme.

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.

Additionally, the School houses the Kent Interdisciplinary Centre for Spatial Studies (KiSS), a UK research leader in spatial analytical techniques and spatial theories.

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.

All PhD students have access to the Researcher Development Programme co-ordinated by the Graduate School, a training provision that promotes and supports the personal, professional and career development of researchers in higher education.

All new PhD researchers attend a Researcher Development Assessment Workshop, which introduces you to the University’s Researcher Development Assessment (RDA). This workshop focuses on what you need to get the most out of your programme. You are encouraged to consider your existing skills, as well as the skills that you hope to acquire while doing your PhD. Following a skills audit, you undertake training courses as appropriate in the following areas: research management, personal effectiveness, communication, networking and teamwork, and career management.

In addition, appropriate courses from the following list will be identified and included in your training portfolio: referencing software, interpersonal skills, media training, presentation skills, project and time management, writing skills, indexing and abstracting services, advanced use of the web for research and thesis writing. Subject-specific training is provided by the School of Anthropology and Conservation, which offers a wide range of postgraduate modules.

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 two-page research proposal, a provisional budget and potential funding sources with all enquiries.

/DID YOU KNOW?/

DICE members are working on conservation projects in 34 countries.
Dr Bob Smith is a Reader in Conservation Science and the Director of DICE. He is also an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and a member of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas.

Bob first came to DICE to take the MSc in Conservation Biology and his research project in South Africa marked the beginning of his career in conservation science. His PhD and postdoctoral work focused on identifying priority areas for conservation in the Maputaland biodiversity hot spot. This work has since expanded to include projects in 22 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and South America.

His research also covers a broad range of other conservation topics, including understanding spatial patterns of deforestation and human-wildlife conflict. In particular, he has published ground-breaking work on the influence of corruption and the role of marketing in conservation.

Here, Bob describes what is special about DICE, why he enjoys teaching and the pleasure of bumping into DICE alumni all over the world.

‘DICE is proud of being different to other academic institutions and that’s the reason I love working here. We have long recognised that solving conservation problems needs an interdisciplinary approach that puts people at the core. This is why DICE members have a wide range of skills and years of experience of working with governments, civil society and businesses to make a difference on the ground.

‘For example, my research on designing national park systems and other conservation landscapes is based on studying and mapping biodiversity patterns, but also involves understanding the best way to engage with local landowners and minimise impacts on other land uses. Similarly our research on reducing human-elephant conflict in Kenya uses data on elephant movements and behaviour, but also focuses on developing better land-use planning and mitigation techniques that account for local conditions and the needs of farmers.

‘Another great thing about being at DICE is that I then get to share these insights when teaching on our Master’s programme. Our student groups are diverse and motivated, and I really enjoy discussing the latest research with them and hearing about their ideas and experiences.

‘These students then go on to join our alumni network, a group of more than a thousand people from over 95 countries. So I know that whether I’m at a local meeting or an international conference, I can be sure of seeing at least one of our alumni and getting updates on the amazing conservation work they are doing around the world.’
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; macroecology and macroevolution.

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 souvenirs.

Dr Joseph Bull
Lecturer in Conservation Science

Core expertise
Macroeology; socio-ecological systems modelling; ‘no net loss’ policy and biodiversity offsets; business and biodiversity conservation.

Professor Zoe Davies
Professor of Biodiversity Conservation

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

Dr Robert Fish
Reader in Human Ecology

Core expertise
Sustainable landscapes; ecosystem services, participatory planning and decision making.
**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.

**Professor Jim Groombridge**  
Professor of Biodiversity Conservation  
**Core expertise**  
Conservation of highly threatened species; conservation genetics of small populations; evolutionary genetics, phylogenetics and biogeography.

**Dr Mark Hampton**  
Reader in Tourism Management  
**Core expertise**  
Sustainable tourism and socio-economic impacts; tourism and poverty alleviation; coastal and island tourism.

**Dr Tatyana Humle**  
Senior 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 Matthew Struebig**  
Senior 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.

**Dr David Roberts**  
Reader in Biodiversity Conservation  
**Core expertise**  
International wildlife trade, particularly over the internet; species identification, detectability, discovery, rediscovery and extinction; orchid ecology, particularly response to climate change.

**Dr Bob Smith**  
Reader in Conservation Science; Director of DICE (See profile on p19.)  
**Core expertise**  
Designing conservation landscapes and protected area networks; human-wildlife conflict; conservation social marketing; conservation and corruption.

**Dr Joseph Tzanopoulos**  
Reader in Landscape Ecology 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.
APPLYING TO KENT

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; a Pearson Test of English (PTE Academic) with a score of 62, including 60 in all four subtests; Cambridge English: Advanced and Proficiency with a score of 176 including a minimum of 169 in reading and writing and 162 in listening and speaking; internet-based TOEFL with a score of 90 including a minimum of 22 in reading, 21 in writing, 17 in listening, 20 in speaking.

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 International Recruitment for clarification (www.kent.ac.uk/internationalstudent/recruitment/team.html).

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 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. All overseas applications, requiring a Tier 4 visa, must be submitted by 31 July.

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

School enquiries
Please contact:
Admissions Office, School of Anthropology and Conservation, Marlowe Building University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NR, UK
T: +44 (0)1227 827013
E: sacadmissions@kent.ac.uk
www.kent.ac.uk/sac

Admissions enquiries
T: +44 (0)1227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk/pg

This brochure was produced in January 2018. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/pg

All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
European connections
Kent is known as the UK’s European university. Our two main UK campuses, Canterbury and Medway, are located in the south-east of England, close to London, and we also have study locations in Athens, Brussels, Paris and Rome.

We have a diverse, cosmopolitan population with 158 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
As a student at Kent, you are taught by leading academics, who produce research of international standing. Based on our excellent results in the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent was ranked in the top 20 in the UK for research intensity by the Times Higher Education, confirming our position as one of the UK’s leading research-intensive universities.

Strong academic community
Kent’s postgraduate students are part of a thriving intellectual community. In addition to lectures, seminars and supervision, you benefit from a rich and stimulating research culture. Woolf College, on the Canterbury campus, is dedicated to postgraduates and combines accommodation with academic and social space.

A global outlook
Kent has a great international reputation, attracting academic staff and students from around the world. Forty-two per cent of our academic staff are from overseas and our schools are engaged in collaborative research with universities worldwide. We 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 competitive 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 7NR
T: +44 (0)1227 827013
E: sacadmissions@kent.ac.uk

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

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 768896
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