WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Canterbury
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING

Conservationists address the most critical issue of our times: how to conserve our planet’s resources. If you want to make a difference and help to find solutions to the conservation of the world’s wildlife and ecology, our degree programme shows the way.

Founded in 1989, the University’s Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE) has an international reputation for wildlife conservation. Studying Wildlife Conservation at DICE, you become a skillful natural scientist, while also developing an understanding of the importance of working with communities to ensure they are a part of conservation initiatives.

Real-world conservation
Conservation, as a field of academic study and professional practice, has its roots in field biology and contributions from the natural sciences, such as biology, will always be essential for effective conservation. However, conservation is also about people, communities, communication, the law, economics, politics, management and change. No conservation initiative will thrive in the absence of any of these components.

DICE is unique in the UK because of the strength of its interdisciplinary approach to conservation. Our mission is to break down the barriers between the natural and social sciences in order to inform progressive approaches to conservation. Located in the School of Anthropology and Conservation (SAC), DICE provides training in both the natural and social sciences and encourages you to choose modules to reflect your particular interests. Studying at SAC, you meet conservationists from all over the world, and also benefit from our extensive international networks. Our emphasis on academic learning and professional training has led to students moving on to key roles in some of the world’s most successful conservation initiatives.

Excellent teaching
DICE is committed to training a new interdisciplinary generation of conservationists who think innovatively about the challenges that lie ahead.

You are taught by academics whose research tackles global conservation crises and has an impact in the UK and around the world. Your modules draw on this research, ensuring that your knowledge is up-to-date and that you are aware of current methods in conservation. You also undertake a final-year research project, for which you receive personalised supervision.

A programme with impact
The world is experiencing a conservation crisis – animals and plants face extinction through habitat loss, over-exploitation, pollution, disease and global climate change. Yet we know that wildlife and biodiversity are vital
Our international community gives you the chance to study the subject from many perspectives. Staff undertake fieldwork abroad, so you can learn first-hand about conservation and environmental projects across the globe.

**A successful future**

It is critical that the world has professionals qualified to understand and manage wildlife and biodiversity in a sustainable way – people who understand ecology and biology in its social, legal and economic setting. At SAC, you gain the skills and knowledge to meet the needs of government and non-governmental organisations charged with managing the earth’s wildlife and biodiversity. Many of our graduates work alongside local people in community-based conservation projects.

The practical nature of the course, along with access to a network of world-leading conservationists, delivers the key transferable skills essential for a successful career.

For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, see p8 or go to www.kent.ac.uk/employability

**A global outlook**

Kent is known as the UK’s European university and has developed international partnerships with a number of prestigious institutions. We have an international community on campus, with 42% of our academic staff coming from outside the UK and students representing 158 different nationalities.

Our international community gives you the chance to study the subject from many perspectives. Staff undertake fieldwork abroad, so you can learn first-hand about conservation and environmental projects across the globe.

**Leading research**

In the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent was ranked 17th* for research intensity, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities. Research in the School was ranked 10th in the UK for research power and in the top 20 for research impact; we were also ranked in the top 20 for research intensity in the Times Higher Education.

DICE was Britain's first research and training centre dedicated to the international conservation of biodiversity, habitats and ecosystems and has projects in 45 countries. These diverse projects include: the effects of global climate change on amphibian assemblages; measuring conservation law-breaking in Sumatra; the role of local communities in conservation; the conservation of chimpanzees; ways to tackle the international trade in endangered species; hen harrier brood management in Scotland; managing mammals (bats and orangutans) in rainforests and agricultural landscapes in Borneo; the conservation genetics of Bengal tigers and leopards; and responding to invasive parakeets in Europe.

*of 122 universities, not including specialist institutions.
SUPERB STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Our campus at Canterbury provides a stunning location for your studies and offers first-class academic and leisure facilities. The campus benefits from a multicultural learning environment and is within easy reach of both London and mainland Europe.

Excellent resources
The School has outstanding resources for teaching and independent study. We are also making a significant investment in the School to create new social spaces for students, more meeting rooms and academic offices. This development will bring all our staff under one roof, helping to create an even stronger School community. The creative design of the building includes an interior living wall, sustainable building materials and landscaped outdoor spaces.

We have recently upgraded our two computer suites. The Hugh Brody suite has 16 iMacs and a new 75-inch high-definition LCD screen, while our PC suite includes 32 computers with HD screens and powerful hard drives for increased performance.

Our practical learning approach ensures the School is excellently equipped with professional standard equipment and resources. In addition to our Conservation Genetics Laboratories and Ecology Laboratory, we maintain an ecology field trials area and field laboratory on the University campus. These facilities provide you with the opportunity to be trained to conduct surveying and monitoring of the on-site endangered species of great crested newt.

Beautiful green campus
Our campus has plenty of green and tranquil spaces, both lawns and wooded areas, and is set on a hill with a view of the city and Canterbury Cathedral. The Canterbury campus is full of wild spaces and is teeming with many species of wildlife. Blean Wood is within walking distance and spreads towards the nearby coast. Much of these woods are protected and they are a stronghold for rare species, such as the nightingale and the heath fritillary butterfly.

Kent has a reputation for being a very friendly university with a cosmopolitan environment. The campus has its own cinema, theatre and a student nightclub, and there are also many restaurants, cafés and bars as well as a sports centre and gym. Everything you need on campus is within walking distance, including a general store, a bank and cashpoints, a bookshop, a medical centre and a pharmacy. From campus, it’s a 25-minute walk or a short bus-ride into town.

Attractive location
Canterbury is a lovely city with medieval buildings, lively bars and atmospheric pubs, as well as a wide range of shops. The attractive coastal town of Whitstable is close by and there are sandy beaches further down the coast. London is less than an hour away by high-speed train.
STUDENT PROFILE

Treya Picking is in the final year of her Wildlife Conservation degree.

Why did you choose Kent?
Out of all the universities that did similar courses Kent caught my eye. The course offered the option of choosing a more scientific route or a social science pathway, which offered a more rounded exploration of conservation and that really appealed to me.

Are you enjoying the course?
I took the Tropical Ecology and Conservation module and spent two weeks in Borneo. It was amazing, the highlight of my course so far. I had done fieldwork on the Canterbury campus but working in a tropical environment was a completely different experience. We got to witness habitat fragmentation first hand and to see what the production of oil palm is doing to the natural environment and species populations.

We spent 10 days in the middle of the rainforest at a research centre. I realised how hard fieldwork can be and how important it is to get along with people, particularly in humid environments where patience is in short supply!

I also went to the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust in Jersey for a two-day intensive course. It was so cool to go behind the scenes at the zoo and to have lectures from professionals who work on the species recovery programmes. Our assignment is to write about one of the endangered species that Durrell is working on, research its history and how it has been managed, and then make recommendations for a recovery programme. It is an area that I would be interested to work in, so it’s great experience.

I also really liked the Skills for Conservation Biologists module, which was statistics-based. It was challenging but has proved very helpful for my dissertation. At the moment, I am on a teaching placement as part of the Social Sciences in the Classroom module and am really enjoying it.

The flexibility of the course is a real advantage. If you can justify your choice, you can choose modules from other schools; I was able to take a digital photography module and one on environmental politics.

Tell us about your dissertation.
It is on three native newt species at a field site on campus, which has been monitored for 17 years. I conducted surveys between March and June and am now analysing data from as far back as 1999, which is fascinating. It feels good to be a part of something that has been running for so long. It is worth remembering that there are species that need conserving right in your own back yard.

What about your lecturers?
They are supportive and happy to help if you get stuck. They are also engaging and encourage open discussion and debate. Seminars are particularly enjoyable, you don’t just discuss the paper you have read, you may do role-plays looking at real-life situations and discussing possible solutions.

What about your fellow students?
We are a close-knit, international group; it is nice to be around people who share the same passion.

Are the facilities on campus good?
The academic facilities are good and improving. Social facilities are good too; there are lots of places to eat and drink and a club on campus. I like Canterbury; it’s a manageable size, not too small to get bored but not too big to feel lost.

What are your plans?
I am looking at doing a Master’s. Longer term, I would like to return to Jamaica and work on promoting and conserving its biodiversity. I am very interested in education and community-based conservation.

Any advice for prospective students?
Think hard about what area of conservation you want to work in and choose your modules according to that. Take a year in professional practice. The lecturers in the School are top practitioners so find out what their interests are and talk to them. Go to DICE lectures and conferences and join local environmental groups.
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

Kent equips you with essential skills to give you a competitive advantage when it comes to getting a job.

Good career prospects
According to recent employment statistics, Kent graduates are doing better than ever in the changeable job market; more than 96% of our 2016 graduates found a job or study opportunity within six months of graduation.

The conservation and environmental sector is an expanding area for employment opportunities. Our graduates go into many kinds of work, including technical posts and consultancies involving ecological surveying, habitat management and species conservation, as well as work with local people through environmental education and community extension to higher-level jobs in national and international planning and policy.

Potential employers include local, regional and national UK government departments, voluntary organisations and the private sector, as well as European and international conservation and environmental organisations. Also, many of our graduates go on to further postgraduate study.

Gain transferable skills
As part of your learning experience at Kent, we are dedicated to helping you acquire key skills that will stand you in good stead for future employment. Gathering and collecting information, analysing both qualitative and quantitative data, getting to grips with challenging ideas, exploring these critically and from different perspectives – all of these are important skills for your future and ones we will help you improve during your degree. Presenting skills are essential for careers in conservation so we ensure you are provided with many opportunities in different settings including short talks, debates and policy pitches.

Careers advice
Our award-winning Careers and Employability Service can give you advice on how to choose your future career, how to apply for jobs, how to write a good CV and how to perform well in interviews and aptitude tests. It also provides up-to-date information on graduate opportunities before and after you graduate.

The School of Anthropology and Conservation also hosts employability events. These highlight the many and varied job opportunities open to our graduates, and give you the chance to hear from recent graduates.

Further information
For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, see www.kent.ac.uk/employability
GRADUATE PROFILE

Katy Upton graduated from her Wildlife Conservation BSc in 2010. She then gained a PhD at Kent and now works at Paignton Zoo.

What attracted you to Kent and to this particular programme?
I was originally attracted to Kent because of the course and the trip to Peru. It was an opportunity I really wanted and am glad I managed to do. I then visited the University and the lovely green campus had me hooked. I put Kent as my first choice and the rest is history.

How were your studies?
Long… I was at Kent for a long time (undergraduate then PhD) but I wouldn’t change any of it. I enjoyed my undergraduate course, I learnt so much and am still working in the industry; I’m a zoo keeper (Amphibians) at Paignton Zoo. Recently, in a meeting, we were discussing key biodiversity areas, something I learnt about at Kent, I was able to pick up that information from years ago and use it.

Which areas did you find particularly interesting?
I would find it difficult to pick out certain areas from my first degree as it was so long ago! But I use a lot of it every day at work.

What did you think of the teaching at Kent?
I think the teaching during my undergraduate degree was great.

Was the course flexible enough to allow you to pursue your own passions?
Yes, 100%. It was the trip to Peru which gave me the opportunity to do a PhD.

How would you describe your fellow students?
We got on very well as we all felt passionately about conservation. I am still in contact with many of them.

Did the course change you?
The course and my PhD have not only developed my skill-set, they have also developed me as a person, giving me more confidence when presenting, giving talks and attending conferences – all things I need to do throughout my career.

What did you gain from it?
Knowledge, a passion for conservation, friends and colleagues who I still talk to and regularly catch up with at meetings, conferences and other events.

Did you enjoy your time at Kent?
I really enjoyed my time at Kent and loved the campus. I joined several clubs and groups and had a very enjoyable social life through these. I also often went out for drinks with friends from my course.

Has your degree helped you find work/further study?
Without having done my undergraduate degree and then my PhD, I would not be in the job I am in now.

Do you enjoy your work?
My job is extremely rewarding, I love what I do and wouldn’t change it for anything. I get to work hands-on with amphibians and reptiles every day. I am involved in conservation and research projects, which are really making a difference to amphibian conservation. I also attend conferences and give presentations about our work.

Do you have a typical working day?
Every day changes when you work with animals! One day I might be cleaning out a filter and changing water in a tank. The next I might be attending a meeting or discussion about amphibian conservation around the world and creating partnerships with other institutions.

What are your future plans?
Continue doing what I am doing now. I hope to stay in my current job for the foreseeable future. I want to improve our facilities and get in some interesting species, so that we can link to in-situ projects and really make a difference to amphibian conservation.

What advice would you give to prospective students?
Follow your passion. Kent is an amazing university and I thoroughly enjoyed my time there.

What would you recommend about studying at Kent?
Everything! Kent is a great place to study with great people, a beautiful campus and some brilliant clubs and groups to join.
YOUR STUDY PROGRAMME

Our Wildlife Conservation programme offers you the opportunity to develop, academic, practical and professional skills in the field of conservation.

Wildlife Conservation
BSc (Hons)
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/30

Wildlife Conservation with a Year in Professional Practice BSc (Hons)
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/392

Studying Wildlife Conservation, you gain comprehensive training in natural science aspects of conservation (including genetics, ecology, wildlife management and species reintroductions), together with training in the human dimensions of conservation (for example, work with rural communities). There is a significant lab and field-based component. There is also an opportunity to conduct a research project in the UK or abroad. Recent locations include South Africa, Russia and the Peruvian Amazon.

Research projects and field trips may incur additional costs; for details please contact the School.

Field trips
Due to the practical nature of this degree, there is a strong emphasis on fieldwork. We aim to undertake two UK field trips per term including visits to Howletts Wild Animal Park, Stodmarsh National Nature Reserve, King’s Wood, Pegwell Bay, Brogdale – Home of the National Fruit Collection, Monks Risborough nature reserve, and a residential trip to the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Jersey (otherwise known as Jersey Zoo). On these trips, you meet conservation practitioners and work alongside academic staff and fellow students to develop your field skills, while applying what you have learnt in the classroom in the field.

In your first year you take a Survey and Monitoring for Biodiversity module, which consists almost entirely of fieldwork. You are introduced to basic field techniques and develop your skills in the collection, analysis and presentation of field data in relation to a range of invertebrates, birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles and plants.

Later in your degree, if you take our Tropical Ecology and Conservation module, you spend two weeks at the Danau Girang Field Centre in Borneo. In the first few days, you explore the beautiful, picturesque rainforest before venturing deeper into the jungle to the field studies site. The research centre is located in an area where huge swathes of jungle have been removed and replaced by plantations. You work on the front line between managing the needs of the community and the impact on biodiversity.
Final-year students often conduct their research project in the field, both locally and globally. In recent years projects have included:

- visitor effect on the behaviour of captive European brown bears (Ursus arctos arctos) and its implication for welfare management
- geographic profiling as a tool to predict alien invasion from exotic pets traded over the internet in the UK
- transect surveys of three critically endangered diurnal lemur species, in the Andriantantely lowland forest fragment
- a comparison of the avian composition, diversity and morphological radiation between habitats in the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve, Peru.

Some students join the School’s annual expedition to our research vessel on the Peruvian Amazon for their final project fieldwork. They spend one or two months aboard the vessel conducting their research. Previous research topics have included:

- river dolphins
- bird sampling
- diversity of different habitats
- primates
- local people and resource use of forest products.

Note: trips are subject to availability and may require financial contributions from attendees.

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Professional practice opportunities

If you want to stand out from other graduates in today’s global job market, spending time in the work place overseas or in the UK as part of your degree can be invaluable.

It demonstrates your ability to adapt to new situations, your sensitivity to other cultures (‘intercultural competence’) and your desire to stretch yourself. Many students find that prospective employers are very interested in their professional practice experience.

You spend a minimum of 24 weeks between Stages 2 and 3 gaining experience of work in a professional environment relevant to your degree, whether at home or abroad. The University supports you as you look for your placement, this includes preparing your CV and interview training. Placements generally take the form of internships with some paid, some voluntary and some offering subsistence.

Many of our current placement students have sourced their placement through our alumni network or via staff research partners. Recent examples include: mammal monitoring in the national parks of Romania, compiling a wildlife trafficking database for TRAFFIC International based in Cambridge, and preparations for climate change negotiations with the United Nations in Bonn.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
Teaching and assessment

Your studies are divided into three stages. At Stage 1, your modules give you an introduction to biological, social and environmental sciences. At Stages 2 and 3, (your second and final year) you develop specialised knowledge and skills.

In addition to lectures, you have field trips and laboratory-based practicals. We make extensive use of small-group teaching formats, such as tutorials, seminars and problem-solving sessions.

Assessment is by a combination of coursework and examinations. You are required to pass Stage 1 in order to progress to Stage 2. Stage 1 marks, however, do not contribute towards your final degree result. Both Stage 2 and 3 marks count towards your final degree result.

Module information

Please note: the module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices are updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

In addition to the modules listed below, you may also be able to choose an optional or ‘wild’ module. To read a full description of any of the modules listed, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modules and search for the module code.

Stage 1

You take the following modules:

- Biodiversity (DI305)
- Environmental Sustainability: An Introduction (DI304)
- The Green Planet (DI311)
- Skills for Anthropology and Conservation (SE308)
- Skills for Wildlife Conservation and Management (DI310)
- Survey and Monitoring for Biodiversity (DI303)
Recom mended modules:
• Animals, People and Plants (SE306)
• Foundations of Biological Anthropology (SE302).

Stages 2 and 3
You take the following modules:
• Conceptual Frameworks in Conservation Science (DI505)
• Conservation Social Science: Methods and Research Design (DI537)
• Contemporary Conservation Science (DI518)
• Research Project (DI522)
• Skills for Conservation Biologists (DI508)
• Spatial Analysis: Principles and Methods (DI530).

There is also a range of recommended modules, including:
• Climate Change and Conservation (DI501)
• Comparative Perspectives in Primate Biology (SE582)
• Conservation and Communities (DI520)
• Creative Conservation (DI532)
• Environmental Law 1 (LW585)
• Evolutionary Genetics and Conservation (DI503)
• Global Biodiversity (DI510)
• Human Ecology: An Introduction to Social-Ecological Systems (SE610)
• Human Wildlife Conflict and Resource Competition (DI531)
• Kent Student Certificate for Volunteering (SO670)
• Practical Guiding and Interpretation (DI527)
• Primate Behaviour and Ecology (SE580)
• Species Conservation (DI521)
• Tropical Ecology and Conservation (DI535).

Q-Step Centre
You can benefit from Kent’s Q-Step Centre, which provides advanced training in quantitative methods in the social sciences to enhance your degree and your employability. For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/qstep

International students
If you are applying from outside the UK without the necessary English language qualifications, you may be able to take the Kent International Foundation Programme to gain access to our programmes. For details see: www.kent.ac.uk/ifp

Other degree programmes
Environmental Social Sciences
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/63
Environmental Social Sciences with a Year in Professional Practice
www.kent.ac.uk/ug391
Our Environmental Social Sciences BA (Hons) degree focuses on the environment from the perspective of the social sciences and humanities. You are encouraged to engage with a variety of environmental understandings from subjects including: anthropology, politics, economics, philosophy, law, history, literature and the creative arts.

Human Ecology
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/899
Human Ecology with a Year in Professional Practice
www.kent.ac.uk/ug/1955
This distinctive BSc (Hons) programme is a three-year, full-time degree that focuses on human-environment relationships, drawing from natural and social sciences. The degree emphasises an interdisciplinary, holistic, cross-cultural approach to human environmental relationships, focusing on critical thinking about the place of humans on the planet and the causes and consequences of the present-day ecological crises.
VISIT THE UNIVERSITY

Come along for an Open Day or an Applicant Day and see for yourself what it is like to be a student at Kent.

Open Days
Kent runs Open Days during the summer and autumn. These provide an excellent opportunity for you to discover what it is like to live and study at the University. You can meet academic staff and current students, find out about our courses and attend subject talks, workshops and informal lectures. We also offer tours around the campus to view our sports facilities, the library and University accommodation.

For further information and details of how to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to study at Kent and we offer you a place (or invite you to attend an interview), you will usually be sent an invitation to one of our Applicant Days. You can book to attend through your online Kent Applicant Portal. The Applicant Day includes presentations in your subject area, guided tours of the campus, including University accommodation, and the opportunity to speak with both academic staff and current students about your chosen subject. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/visit

Informal visits
You are also welcome to make an informal visit to our campuses at any time. The University runs tours of the Canterbury and Medway campuses throughout the year for anyone who is unable to attend an Open Day or Applicant Day. It may also be possible to arrange meetings with academic staff, although we cannot guarantee this. For more details and to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/informal
Self-guided tours
You can explore the Canterbury campus in person or from the comfort of your home. Our self-guided audio tour gives you a real flavour of the campus and you will hear from people who help make Kent such an inspiring place to study – our staff and students. Go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/visit/informal/audio-tour.html to get started.

Alternatively, we can provide you with a self-guided tour leaflet, which includes the main points of interest. For more details and to download a self-guided tour, go to www.kent.ac.uk/informal

More information
If you would like more information on Kent’s courses, facilities or services, please contact us on:
T: +44 (0)1227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

To download another subject leaflet, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/leaflets

For the latest School information on studying Wildlife Conservation at Kent, please see www.kent.ac.uk/sac or www.kent.ac.uk/dice

Location
Canterbury

Award
BSc (Hons)

Degree programme
Single honours (BSc)
• Wildlife Conservation (CD14)
• Wildlife Conservation with a Year in Professional Practice (1T16)

Offer levels
ABB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points overall or 16 points at HL.

Required subjects
A level Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geology, Geography or Psychology grade B, plus GCSE Mathematics grade C (or grade 4); IB Diploma Mathematics 4 at HL or SL and Biology, Geography, Environmental Systems and Society, Psychology, Geology or Chemistry 5 at HL or 6 at SL.

Please note: we may consider candidates who do not have these entry requirements but have several years’ relevant experience or other qualifications in the subject area.

More information
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For the latest School information on studying Wildlife Conservation at Kent, please see www.kent.ac.uk/sac or www.kent.ac.uk/dice

This brochure was produced in June 2017. 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/ug and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
COME AND VISIT US

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