

Certificate of Higher Education: Field Ecology (CHE)

A scientific background is not required to study for the CHE. You can enrol on the CHE and pay for modules individually, there is no upfront fee. Assessments are usually embedded into the course itself and they are designed to suit adult learners, we do not set exams. You can try a couple of modules and then join the CHE, and the modules you have already completed will still count towards the final qualification.

All the courses are accredited by Aberystwyth University and can be built up to give a Certificate leading onto a Diploma. The courses are specifically tailored for people who cannot contemplate full time study due to other commitments and are ideal for professional development to broaden your knowledge and skills base. The completed Certificate would enhance your CV and give you skills highlighted by the Environmental Research Funders' Forum (ERFF) as most wanted by employees in the environmental sector. In the past, students have gained employment in many of the environmental agencies and charitable trusts. Alternatively, the courses offer an interesting challenge to anyone fascinated by the living world.

The CHE is awarded after the completion of 120 credits, of which 40 credits must be taken from the core courses. You can then choose a minimum of 50 credits from the key courses which ensure you are able to plan and undertake field and survey work and identify key species with confidence. For the remaining 30 credits you can choose more courses from the key courses or pick from the optional courses to widen your learning experience.

Core Courses

The core courses provide the foundation research skills and knowledge to enable you to progress and get the most out of the key courses. It is recommended that you tackle the core courses early in your studies, as they provide a solid ecological basis upon which to build.

Any module available to study online (self-paced learning) is highlighted in yellow.

Core Courses
All 4 courses must be taken:
Ecology 1 – An Introduction
Animal Diversity
Plant Diversity
Identifying Flowering Plants

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120 CREDITS IN TOTAL

The certificate comprises 120 credits of which a minimum of 50 credits must be taken from the key courses. In order to obtain the certificate candidates must achieve a weighted average of at least 40% overall. Students may not take more than 20 credits at level 0. **Modules are 10 credits unless otherwise stated.**

Any module available to study online (self-paced learning) is highlighted in yellow
Any module available to study as a blended learning experience is highlighted in green

KEY COURSES LEVEL 1	OPTIONAL COURSES LEVEL 1	OPTIONAL COURSES LEVEL 0
50 credits must be chosen from this list.		Students may take no more than 20 credits at level 0
<p>Bird Identification</p> <p>Woodland Birds</p> <p>Waterbird Identification</p> <p>Autumn Migrant Birds</p> <p>Butterflies of Various Habitats</p> <p>Diversity of Invertebrates</p> <p>Documenting Coastal Species Through Photography</p> <p>Dragonflies of Various Habitats</p> <p>Entomology - The Larger Insects of Wales</p> <p>Field Survey Techniques</p> <p>Ferns and Fern Allies</p> <p>Fungal Ecology</p> <p>Identifying Grasses, Sedges and Rushes</p> <p>Identifying Mosses, Liverworts and Lichens</p> <p>Invertebrate Macrophotography</p> <p>Life in the Seas (<i>Intro to Marine Biology</i>)</p> <p>Plants in their Habitats</p> <p>Pond and Stream Invertebrate Life</p> <p>Rocky Shore Ecology & Sampling Techniques</p> <p>Understanding Amphibians</p> <p>Understanding British Bats: An Introduction</p> <p>Understanding British Mammals</p> <p>Understanding British Marine Mammals</p> <p>Introduction to Animal Behaviour</p> <p>Understanding Reptiles</p> <p>Climate Change Ecology</p> <p>Wildflowers Identification and Folklore</p> <p>Peat and Peatlands of Wales</p>	<p>Biospheres and the Dyfi UNESCO Designation</p> <p>Evolutionary Biology – An Introduction</p> <p>Coastlines - Form and Function</p> <p>Conservation of Britain’s Biological Resources</p> <p>Dealing with Data: an introduction to statistics</p> <p>Forestry and the Environment</p> <p>Introduction to Geology</p> <p>Issues in Conservation</p> <p>Soil, Climate and Topography</p> <p>Town and Country</p> <p>Living Soil (5 credits)</p>	<p>Science behind Gardening (5 credits)</p> <p>Earth and Water</p> <p>Gardening with Wildlife</p> <p>Growing Fruit (5 credits)</p> <p>Exploring Nature Through a Lens</p> <p>Introduction to Forest Gardening (5 credits)</p> <p>Introduction to Fungi</p> <p>Introduction to Outdoor Digital Photography</p> <p>Organic gardening</p> <p>Introduction to Permaculture</p> <p>Permaculture 1 – An Introduction (5 credits)</p> <p>Wildlife Digital Photography</p> <p>Amphibians in the Environment (5 credit)</p> <p><u>Natural History Illustration modules</u></p> <p>Botanical Illustration 1</p> <p>Botanical Illustration 2</p> <p>Flower painting (20 credits)</p> <p>Sourced from the kitchen garden (5 credits)</p> <p>Seed heads (5 credits)</p> <p>Mosses, Lichens and Liverworts (5 credits)</p> <p>Succulents (5 credits)</p> <p>Fungi (5 credits)</p> <p>Birds and Mammals</p> <p>Fur, Feather and Scale (5 credits)</p> <p>Insects (5 credits)</p> <p>Dragonflies (5 credits)</p> <p>Invertebrates (5 credits)</p> <p>Seaweed (5 credits)</p> <p>Crustaceans (5 credits)</p> <p>Shells (5 credits)</p>

