

# Local Field Excursions

Nestled between the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales National Park and several Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Lancaster is perfectly placed to study ecological and environmental processes. You will have the opportunity to develop your field skills through regular visits to the local area and highlights include:



- Visits to local zoos and aquariums in your first year to learn about conservation efforts and aquatic ecology
- Extending your field and observational skills during the first year field trip to Kingsdale in Yorkshire, and putting these into practice in a self-guided field trail at the end of the year
- Learning how conservation goals are prioritised and how biodiversity is quantified during a visit to a local Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in your second year
- Developing your knowledge of how conservation theory is put into practice as part of third year field trips to local sites including the Forest of Bowland, Leighton Moss RSPB Reserve and Warton Crag nature reserve

## Costs

Where fieldwork is optional (comprising either the whole module or part of the module) some of the cost will be subsidised by Lancaster University with the remainder paid by the student.

### For more information

Please visit our website:

 [www.lancaster.ac.uk/lec/undergraduate](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/lec/undergraduate)

### Contact us

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Disclaimer: The information in this leaflet relates primarily to 2025/26 entry to the University and every effort has been taken to ensure the information is correct at the time of printing in June 2024. The University will use all reasonable effort to deliver the course as described but the University reserves the right to make changes after going to print. You are advised to consult our website at [www.lancaster.ac.uk/study](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study) for up-to-date information before you submit your application.

Further legal information may be found at [www.lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice)

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# Fieldwork Opportunities

Ecology and Conservation

*Fieldwork is an exciting and interesting way to develop your practical skills. Our surroundings allow us to give you regular hands-on experience of a wide range of environmental and ecological situations in the local area, and you will also have the opportunity to travel further afield or even overseas on a range of exciting field courses that will place your studies in the context of real-world issues.*

*We have a wide variety of field courses available for all of our subjects. You may choose up to two field courses per year of study, and you will also be able to take advantage of many different excursions around the local area which allow you to put theory into practice in the field.*

## **Doñana National Park** Spain

In the south west of Spain, Doñana National Park is one of the most important biodiversity hotspots in Europe. The area is home to over 1500 species of plants, over 400 species of birds and 50 species of terrestrial mammals including the Iberian Lynx, the most endangered of the world's cats. You will explore the diversity of habitat and organisms living in the area and the actions that can be taken to promote the conservation of biodiversity. You will gain practical experience of identification, critical observation and accurate recording of plants, invertebrates and birds. A guided visit to the National Park provides you with an understanding of the role of National Parks in conservation.

**Year of Study:** First

**Date:** Easter Vacation

**\* Either the Donana National Park, Spain or the Eden Project Field course are compulsory for Ecology and Conservation students.**

## **Scotland Field Course** Isle of Mull

The ecology field course to Mull provides a chance to experience some amazing landscapes, from mountains to coasts, and to learn about the ecology of key plant and animal species. Each day you'll visit a variety of sites including mountains, rocky coastlines, fertile shell-sand beaches and heather moorland, with the aim of understanding the landscape, the place of key species within it, and conservation and management issues. You'll also get to know the spectacular flora of the region and you'll see a broad range of animal species such as red deer, white-tailed eagles, seals, mountain hares, hen harrier and a variety of seabirds.

**Year of Study:** Third

**Date:** Summer Vacation at the end of Year 2



## Switzerland

This is an intensive week-long residential field trip to south west Switzerland. You will select from one of six interconnected study themes to explore in depth, spanning: alpine climate and hydrology; glacial processes; alpine rivers; streams; soils; and ecosystems. Through the collection of significant amounts of field data on your chosen theme you will gain an in depth understanding of a particular thematic focus of alpine environments.

**Year of Study:** Third

**Date:** July

## Tropical Biology & Conservation Kenya

Based in the beautiful Rift Valley, Kenya, you'll explore the staggering biodiversity of local aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, at the same time considering how best to monitor and protect it. Working with experts in African ecology from Lancaster Environment Centre, you will gain first-hand experience of the ecological processes and conservation issues common to the tropics. Together, we will evaluate the challenging balance between tropical conservation and human activity.

**Year of Study:** Third

**Date:** September

## Eden Project Cornwall

This is a new week long residential field course that aims to explore the flora, fauna and soil ecology of Cornwall, and the conservation efforts underway to restore the natural habitats of this unique region. Guided by staff from Lancaster and the Eden Project, you will experience various activities focused on biodiversity and conservation, including a tour of the Eden Project and plant and nesting bird surveys, as well as studying examples of conservation in practice, such as 'A history of mining,' 'Lizard Peninsula coastline vs heathlands' and 'Roseland Peninsula marine habitats'.

**Year of Study:** First

**Date:** Easter vacation