GVI Online

Course syllabus

Conservation and Scientific Research

Conservation and Scientific Research | Syllabus

The Conservation and Scientific Research course will introduce you to some of the field research techniques used in biological monitoring. You will learn about biological surveys, including species identification, environmental impacts, survey planning, health and safety, and survey logistics.

Modules		Lessons	Learning objectives
1.	Target Species Identification	• How does monitoring support conservation objectives? • What is a Target Species? • Target Species in Their Environment • Functional Groups • Target Species Summary Report	• Recall how monitoring supports conservation/management objectives • Identify why target species are used in biological monitoring • Identify key characteristics of target species • Comprehend the role target species play in the ecosystem
2.	Survey Techniques	• Best Practice Guidelines for Surveys and Monitoring • Comparing Survey Techniques • Environmental Impact Analysis	• Identify which survey techniques to use for different research areas • Understand the advantages and limitations of different survey techniques • Recognise the environmental and social impacts associated with environmental monitoring
3.	Survey Logistics	• Survey Briefings • Survey Aims and Objectives • Data Management • What Went Wrong? • Getting Ready to Lead a Survey	• Describe terms used for different survey techniques • Identify what survey equipment is required • Prepare a plan for undertaking a field survey in one of GVI's locations

4.	Project Partner Relation-ships	• Building Capacity • Forming Strong Partnerships • Introduction to Conservation Partnerships	• Describe the work goals of one of GVI's partners • Understand how the work GVI is undertaking is contributing towards the partner's goals • Recognise the benefits collaboration provides to both organisations	
5.	Health and Safety Procedures	• Identifying Risk • Preparing for the Unexpected • Managing Emergencies • Emergency Plan	• Determine the risks associated with biological surveying • Prepare for an emergency situation • Manage an emergency situation, including post event reporting	

Distribution of learning effort

- Course total: 10 - 15 hours, self-paced.
- Per module: Average of 2 hours for videos, reading material, quizzes and engagement in the discussion forum.
- Final quiz-based assignment: Up to 1.5 hours to complete.

Your responsibility

You are expected to:

- complete your profile on Canvas with some background information on your areas of interest, work experience and/or educational qualifications and upload a profile picture
- master a series of modules that consist of readings, videos, presentations and notes
- undertake self-assessment quizzes at the end of each module to enhance your overall understanding of the content
- make at least one significant contribution to the discussion forum in each module (we define significant as something that adds a new perspective, provides input on resources and networks. or ask questions)
- complete the quiz-based course assignment at the end of the course

Assessments

- You will only be graded on the final course assignment. This is a summative assessment that integrates learning from all the modules.
- You are required to participate in pre- and post-course surveys and contribute to the discussion forums.
- You will not be graded on the self-assessment quizzes at the end of each module. These are formative assessments.

Grading

- You will need to achieve a grade of 75% or higher on your final course assignment to pass the course and receive a certificate of completion.