

Diversity and Conservation

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This course investigates the foundations of biological diversity. It uses genetics, evolutionary biology, and ecology to investigate the definition, location and conservation of Earth's biological diversity. Beginning at the genetic level and working up to populations, species and ecosystems, lectures and field trips will explore the complex processes that generate biological novelty at all levels and the destructive forces that eliminate it. Participants gain the scientific background necessary to understand how humans and the earth benefit from biodiversity and the importance of its protection.

Session 1 - Introduction: Biodiversity

Files:

File Title

[Background reading - Intro to Biodiversity](#)
[Intro to Biodiversity - slides](#)

Session 2 - Biodiversity values: Why is biodiversity important?

Files:

File Title

[Why is biodiversity important](#)
[Biodiversity values - slides](#)

Session 3 - Biodiversity and Human Health

Files:

File Title

[Assignment - Flying foxes and human health](#)
[Biodiversity and human health - synthesis reading](#)
[Biodiversity and human health slides](#)
[Breed et al. 2006](#)

Session 4 - Conservation of Populations and Species

Recommended Readings:

[Online bandicoot PVA](#)

Files:

File Title

[Bandicoot demography
exercise](#)

[Bandicoot PVA guide](#)

[Populations lecture slides](#)

Session 5 - Conservation of Protected Areas and Ecosystems

Files:

File Title

[Conservation Acquisitions Exercise](#)

[Species and Landscape Conservation lecture slides](#)