COURSE DETAIL

CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

Country
Netherlands

Host Institution
Leiden University College

Program(s)
Leiden University College

UCEAP Course Level
Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)
Environmental Studies Biological Sciences

UCEAP Course Number
103

UCEAP Course Suffix

UCEAP Official Title
CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

UCEAP Transcript Title
CONSERVATION BIOL

UCEAP Quarter Units
6.00

UCEAP Semester Units
4.00

Course Description
This is an introduction to the discipline of Conservation Biology. This course discusses ecological and evolutionary concepts that are relevant to diagnosing and treating the decline of populations, species, and ecosystem health (including population dynamics, island bio-geography, and conservation genetics). It covers the advantages and disadvantages of different conservation tools and approaches, as well as other important considerations for setting up a conservation plan (for example, what is the end goal and why; do you focus on a species or habitat; and how do you measure progress). The course considers the reality of implementing scientific theory into conservation practice, and why the incorporation of societal, political, and/or economic considerations is important to the success of conservation programs. In addition to class presentations on selected topics, students produce a conservation action plan for a selected case study. At the end of this course, the students are able to: describe and discuss processes that lead to declines in populations, biodiversity and ecosystem functioning; explain the relevance and use of ecological and evolutionary theories and principles for conservation biology; discuss how the concept of context dependency applies to conservation biology; discuss the strengths and weaknesses of different conservation approaches; explain how an interdisciplinary approach is essential to addressing conservation challenges; conduct a situation analysis for a conservation case, using data from the scientific literature, highlighting the drivers of decline, direct threats and traits of the population/ecosystems that may assist and/or hinder conservation efforts; critically evaluate conservation approaches for appropriateness and feasibility for different case studies; construct a conservation action plan for a case study, based on relevant literature, a situation analysis and critical evaluation of different conservation approaches, and communicate the plan to a lay audience.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
4503EES99Y

Host Institution Course Title

CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
Leiden University College, The Hague

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Earth, Energy and Sustainability

Course Last Reviewed

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