

Investigating the Variety of Living Organisms, 1day



Students will carry out fieldwork in at least two different micro habitats and cover ideas about classification and biodiversity from Unit 2 - The variety of living organisms.

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COURSE LENGTH

Sessions from 9.30am-4.00pm

Extensions can be arranged. This makes more time available for follow up discussions and analysis; ensuring students make the most of this outdoor learning opportunity.

COURSE CONTENT

Definitions and Concepts	Sampling and Experimental Techniques	Data Analysis and Presentation Skills	How Science Works (these areas will either be linked to fieldwork or discussion sessions)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Species concept • Taxonomy • Species Diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Random sampling • Dependent and independent variables • Data collection • Risk assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Species Diversity Index • Methodical data collection • Identifying and managing limitations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human impact on diversity

Investigative Skills Assessments (ISA) and Practical Skills Assessments (PSA) will not be carried out but by the end of this course students will have developed the following ISA/PSA skills:

- Changing a specific independent variable and measuring changes in the dependent variable
- Recognising, monitoring or keeping other variables constant
- Recognising accuracy, precision and reliability of data
- Risk management and ethical considerations
- Time management and methodical approaches
- Construction of raw data tables
- Recognising correlations, causal relations and the tentative nature of data
- Identify limitations
- Drawing valid conclusions using wider biological knowledge and understanding
- Suggestions for further studies and of how limitations be reduced

Post Course information can be provided to assist students in:

- Choosing appropriate graphs
- Assessing relative effects of limitations on reliability, precision, conclusions



External Recognition of Quality

All our centres have either been awarded the Quality Badge by The Council for Learning Outside the Classroom, or are awaiting assessment. The badge is awarded to organisations that have demonstrated that they consistently deliver high quality teaching and learning experiences and manage risk effectively. This means that you will have to complete less paperwork when visiting our centres

LEARNING OUTCOMES/OBJECTIVES

Learning Objectives	Learning Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide students with an understanding of key ecological concepts • Provide students with experience of ecological techniques and emphasise the justification and limitations of those techniques • Explore the synoptic links between ecological studies and other areas of the specification • Develop the skills needed to assess the biodiversity present in different micro-habitats and why this may vary 	<p>By the end of a course we expect all students to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have gained an understanding of the appropriate terminology used in ecological questions • Be able to use their findings in the context of standard ecological concepts and make synoptic links to other areas of their specification <p>We also hope that students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have developed an understanding of, and respect for, living organisms in their natural habitats • Appreciate the rich biodiversity of life within all types of habitats in the UK. • Explore how personal, social, moral and cultural issues can be put into a wider environmental context

Protecting fieldwork opportunities for everybody

Growing pressures on outdoor learning has led the FSC to take on an important role; championing the rights and opportunities for people of all ages to experience the environment at first hand.

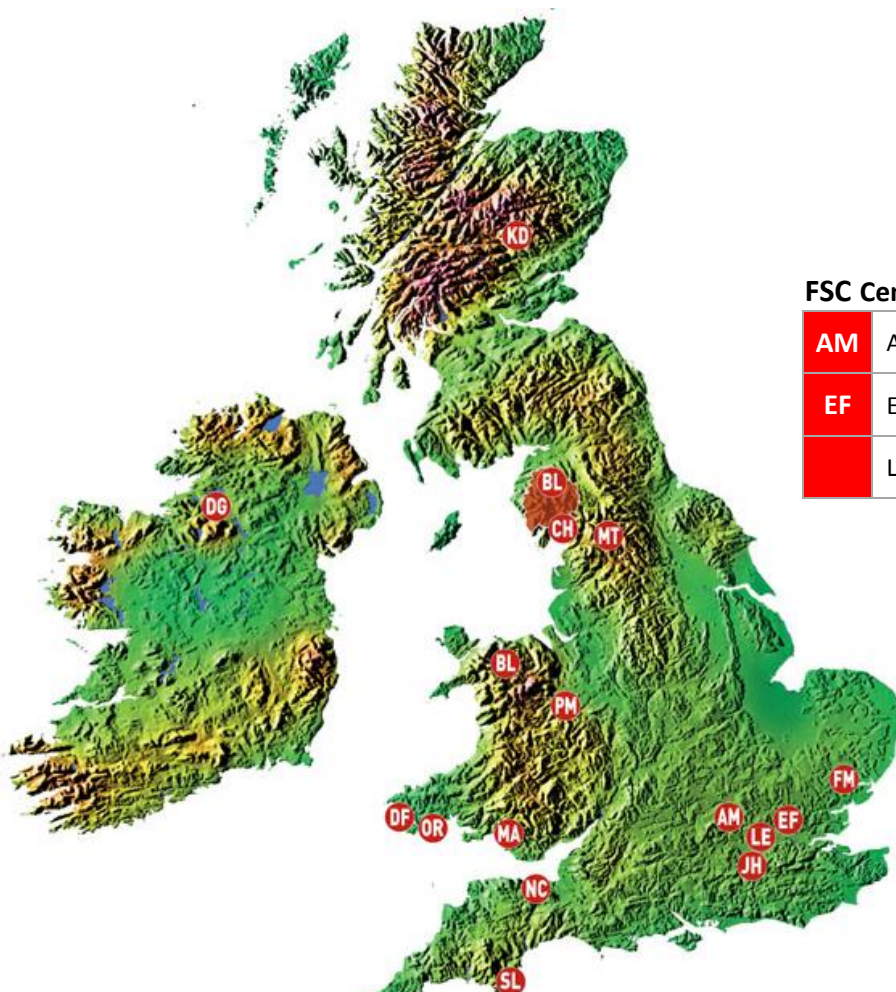
The FSC has led in campaigns to reverse the continuing decline in fieldwork within secondary schools and to build opportunities for out-of-classroom learning.

As a registered charity, the FSC receives no statutory funding. It relies solely on fees charged for courses and membership. Therefore, by visiting an FSC Centre not only are you receiving a high quality educational experience for your students, you are also helping to protect fieldwork opportunities for everybody.

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FSC CENTRES

This course is offered at our day centres listed below, set in some of the most stunning locations in the UK.



FSC Centres that offer this course:

AM	Amersham	01494 721 054
EF	Epping Forest	020 8502 8500
	Lake District	01768 779 601

TO BOOK THIS COURSE, SIMPLY:

1. Choose the time of the year you would like to attend
2. Pick the centre/centres of interest
3. [Check availability online](#) or contact head office using the details at the bottom of the page or contact the centre of your choice

**Please note to book this course the minimum size of your group must be 12 students and 1 member of staff*

Please visit

<http://www.field-studies-council.org/outdoorclassroom/biology/aqa/>

for alternative [biology fieldwork](#) courses covering [A-level aqa biology fieldwork](#)

The FSC prides itself on being flexible. If you can't find a course to meet your exact requirements a course specifically tailored to meet your needs can be developed. To discuss this, contact the centre of your choice. Fees will depend on what time of year you would like to visit and your length of stay but will be more expensive than FSC courses at peak periods.