

Countryside



Course information

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A course in **countryside** studies at BCA is for anyone who has a passion for the environment and conservation. You will be able to gain a qualification that combines knowledge and practical skills to enhance employment opportunities, or to enable you to progress on to a higher qualification.

The courses attracts both young people and adults seeking a career change. If you are looking to work outdoors in the countryside or in a semi-urban environment, maintaining and managing living resources, whether it be natural flora or fauna, this could be the course for you.

BCA currently offers two full-time courses in Countryside Management:

Level 2 Diploma in Countryside: A one-year programme designed to equip individuals with the knowledge, understanding and practical skills required for a successful career in the countryside industry

Level 3 Extended Diploma and Subsidiary Diploma in Countryside Management: This programme introduces students to a range of countryside management settings and is ideal for those who want a direct route into either employment or higher level study.



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Level 2 Diploma in Countryside

One year

This course builds on the Level 1 Diploma in Land-based Studies (Horticulture) to enhance your basic knowledge and practical skills to enable you to become a ranger or estate worker. It is ideal for those who are interested in making a career with environmental and conservational industries.

Programme content

- Work experience
- Environmental and land-based businesses
- Estate maintenance
- Ecological surveys and techniques
- Conservation and improvement of British habitats
- Introduction to practical forestry skills
- 150 hours of work experience are required

Entry requirements

4 GCSEs at Grade D and above (certain subjects may be specified), or Level 1 Diploma, BTEC Introductory Certificate or NVQ Level 1 or equivalent.

Assessment method

All units are assessed by assignments

Progression

Successful completion at Merit Level can lead to progression onto the Level 3 Diploma in Countryside.

Employment opportunities

This course gives learners the opportunity to go into the land-based sector, in roles such as countryside rangers, conservation officers, ecologists and estate managers.

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Level 3 Extended Diploma and Subsidiary Diploma in Countryside Management

Two years

These courses expand on environmental education obtained at Level 2

Programme content

- Undertake and review work related experience in the land-based industries
- Understand the principles and carry out the practice of wildlife population surveys, ecology and conservation
- Undertake estate skills
- Undertaking farm habitat management
- Undertaking land-based machinery operations
- Understand the principles of plant science
- Understanding woodland management
- Understanding organism identification
- Understanding the principles of forest recreation
- Understanding freshwater and wetland management
- Understand the principles of soil science
- 300hrs of work experience must be obtained within the countryside industry

Entry requirements

4 GCSEs at Grade C or above, or

Level 2 Diploma in Countryside at Merit level

Entrance for mature students will be dependent upon experience

Progression

Successful completion can lead into university courses or employment

Employment opportunities

This course gives learners the opportunity to go into the land-based sector, in roles such as countryside rangers, conservation officers, ecologists and estate managers.



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The College is set in the heart of the Thames Valley. We are just 25 miles from central London and within easy reach of both the M4 and M40 motorways. Residential accommodation is available. Bus services run daily from Amersham, Aylesbury, Bracknell, Camberley, High Wycombe, Maidenhead, Reading and Slough mainline stations.

We have an extensive range of sports and social facilities, including sports fields, indoor sports centre, multi-gym, multi-purpose all weather games facility and bar and television lounge.

We aim to provide an environment which is open and equal and where you are treated solely on your merits and abilities. We have a well-established learning support service, with a team of staff who can help you with your study skills. Our College Disability Statement contains more information and you may request a copy at any time.

FEES AND GRANTS

Those under 19 years of age pay no tuition fees for a full-time programme. A facilities fees is payable by all students

HOW TO APPLY

Please telephone or write to the address above for an application form

DISCLAIMER

The College believes that the information in this leaflet is accurate at the time of preparation. However, we cannot accept responsibility for errors of description or subsequent alterations that may become necessary. We regret that a programme, or a specialist option of a programme, may have to be cancelled if minimum enrolment numbers are not achieved.

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