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| TITLE | Field Survey Techniques |
| TUTOR | Dr Jemma Bezant |

Dear Student,

Thank you for enrolling on this Lifelong Learning course. This letter gives you some further information. If you have any questions, please contact either:

**The LLL Office**: [learning@aber.ac.uk](mailto:learning@aber.ac.uk)

**The Tutor:** Dr Jemma Bezant [jeb52@aber.ac.uk](mailto:jeb52@aber.ac.uk)

**The Co-ordinator:** Elin Mabbutt [emm32@aber.ac.uk](mailto:emm32@aber.ac.uk)

We hope you enjoy the course.

Best Wishes,

**The Lifelong Learning Team**

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**GETTING STARTED**

**Aberystwyth University Student Account**

Before you can begin your course, you need to activate your **Aberystwyth University Student Account**. After you pay and enrol, you will be sent your **unique student number** by the Lifelong Learning Administrator. This will enable you to obtain your student username and set a password for your student account.

Having an account gives you many additional benefits such as access to the university library and online journals, an email address, and discounts for university services.

[Click here](https://myaccount.aber.ac.uk/open/activate/) to find all the instructions you will need to set up your student account.

Once you have completed this process login to your [Aberystwyth University email account here](https://login.microsoftonline.com/common/oauth2/authorize?client_id=00000002-0000-0ff1-ce00-000000000000&redirect_uri=https%3a%2f%2foutlook.office.com%2fowa%2f&resource=00000002-0000-0ff1-ce00-000000000000&response_mode=form_post&response_type=code+id_token&scope=openid&msafed=0&client-request-id=1a50f117-68e4-464d-b9c3-80fd788cb7e5&protectedtoken=true&claims=%7b%22id_token%22%3a%7b%22xms_cc%22%3a%7b%22values%22%3a%5b%22CP1%22%5d%7d%7d%7d&domain_hint=aber.ac.uk&nonce=637354312838097988.a0319ebd-6272-4475-a59a-e0b8afa5fbe1&state=Dcs7DoMwEEVRO1kJTTobf5lxgbKWNzBIUUCRkBK2HxfndtcaY-7drbOhx9CUKdeSY-LMoVFj9gg5NpXVTYmSK4WqQ21wGoSxoW6i0fZ3GD8Xxuep2I8ZoqfH4r_vx2-dL5UDr_0P)

**Online Learning Environment: Blackboard**

Once you have an active username and password you can login to our **online learning environment** called **Blackboard** by going to[https://blackboard.aber.ac.uk](https://blackboard.aber.ac.uk/). This is where you can access the learning materials for your course, interact online with your tutor and other students and submit your assignments.

**Microsoft Teams**

Your course may include one or more live online learning webinars or seminars. If so, these will be held using the online platform **Microsoft Teams**. Like Blackboard, you can access Teams online by going to <https://teams.microsoft.com/> and logging in with your Aberystwyth University student username and password. Although not essential, we would recommend you download the Microsoft Teams software onto your desktop. Once you have logged in, you can do this from the Microsoft Teams homepage. Click on the circle in the top right-hand corner of the screen and select **Download the Desktop App.**

If an online meeting has been scheduled by your tutor you will receive an email to your **University Email Account** that will contain a link, which you can click on to join the meeting. Alternatively, if you go to your **Calendar** in Microsoft Teams, which is on the left-hand side of the screen, you will see a **Join button** appear by the meeting just before it begins, which you can click on.

If you haven’t used Microsoft Teams before I would recommend watching this one minute [**video (link)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pauAUOl8v4) so you know what to expect.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

Studying field survey techniques is valuable for anyone involved or interested in land management as you learn key practical skills such as how to use the relevant landscape and regulatory frameworks, designations and policies relating to the historic environment.   
  
This module aims to introduce students to a range of survey techniques commonly used in field ecology and nature conservation. The course is designed to give a thorough theoretical and practical grounding in the techniques available. Field surveys and data collection are essential for base-line studies and for appropriate site/habitat planning, management and monitoring.   
  
Field survey is a valuable skill when seeking employment in the environmental sector. With this in mind, the module provides an employability workshop on Microsoft Teams and a CV clinic.   
  
Field Survey Techniques can be studied as a stand-alone course, but it is also a key module for the Certificate of Higher Education in Field Ecology at Aberystwyth University. This online, self-paced learning course enables you to study from home and participate in an online learning community. The course is delivered through Blackboard, our virtual learning environment and will include one or more live webinars.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

On completion of this module, students should be able to:

1. Select appropriate methods for surveying and data collection in different habitats.
2. Plan surveys to determine species diversity within a range of habitats.
3. Calculate a number of ecological indices (e.g. diversity and similarity).
4. Plan a simple monitoring programme.

**COURSE PROGRAMME**

Activities and tasks will be embedded into each unit so students can practise the techniques they have learned and develop their skills. Students will be encouraged to share their own work and participate in discussions on Blackboard. Alongside the learning materials on Blackboard the tutor will be on hand via email to answer any queries and provide guidance throughout the course. They will also participate in the online discussions.

Unit 1 – Introduction

Unit 2 – Survey Planning

Unit 3 – Data and Report Writing

Unit 4 – Terrestrial and Marine habitats

Unit 5 - Floral, Faunal and species specific surveys

Unit 6 - Presenting your data, reporting and employability

**ASSESSMENTS**

1. Short report on ecology experiment 800 words (40%)
2. Monitoring activity statement of intent 200 words (20%)
3. Written and illustrated monitoring activity report 800 words (40%)

Find our full programme listings here: <https://www.aber.ac.uk/en/lifelong-learning/courses/>

Are you interested in completing a Certificate in Higher Education? If you are, speak to your tutor or contact the co-ordinator: [emm32@aber.ac.uk](mailto:emm32@aber.ac.uk)