

ATREE's Academy for Conservation Science and Sustainability Studies presents

15-Day Field-based Course in Conservation Science For Young Professionals, Senior Graduate and Post-Graduate Students

Protecting and conserving India's biodiversity is a challenging and complex task. There has never been a more critical need for well-informed professionals in our combined efforts to conserve India's rich natural heritage. As a small, but significant step to meet this need and on popular demand, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) is offering a comprehensive field based course on conservation science and allied social sciences needed to build a conceptually strong framework for effective conservation. The course will focus on conservation issues at the regional level but with a global perspective. A set of 6–8 lectures will complement several half-a-day discussions and intensive project mode exercises in the field that will expose students to holistic perspectives, rigorous concepts, innovative tools and the latest techniques in conservation science. The 7–8 days fieldwork in the Western Ghats and Eastern Himalayas is designed to maximize the student's exposure to real-life field situations.

There will be two courses of 15 days duration, one focused in the Western Ghats and the other in the Eastern Himalayas. Preference will be given to North East applicants for the course in the NE. The Eastern Himalayas course is being organized in partnership with Aaranyak, an Assam-based Conservation NGO (www.aaranyak.org).

Eligibility: First class graduate (any discipline). Senior undergraduate and post-graduate students with a keen interest in nature and conservation can also apply. Number of participants will be limited to 15.

Location and dates: (1) Western Ghats-course, 10–23 August 2010, Bangalore and Agasthyar-malai Field Academy, Singampatti, Tamil Nadu. (2) Eastern Himalaya-course, 2nd week of January 2011, Guwahati, Assam.

Application process: An application from the participant should contain (1) A one-page justification by the candidate of why this course is important to him or her. (2) Demonstrated aptitude or interest in the area of natural resource conservation – published articles, essays, other relevant activities and membership. (3) Recommendation by the Department Head or concerned supervisor and 4. Good academic record including a minimum of a First class in any discipline with an active interest in conservation and willingness to learn.

The course fee is Rs 3000 (foreign participants US\$ 500) and includes boarding, lodging and course material. Travel expenses to and from Bangalore will have to be borne by the participants. We are able to keep the course fee to a minimum through a core grant to ATREE's Academy for Conservation Science and Sustainability Studies by the Jamsetji Tata Trust.

Kindly send your application to Madhavi e-mail (madhavi@atree.org) or post it before 25 July 2010 for WG course and 30 November 2010 for EH course, to: Ms Madhavi Latha, ATREE, Royal Enclave, Sriramapura, Jakkur PO, Bangalore 560 064. Check for updates at http://www.atree.org/fbc_consci