Our modular Programme can help professionals to apply for Chartered Status (Chartered Environmentalist or Chartered Ecologist), and to meet relevant professional competency thresholds.

- Gain professional recognition, and demonstrate your competence, commitment and leadership with regard to best environmental practice within your particular field of expertise.

- Ensure that you remain ahead of the field; enhance your employment, promotion or career prospects by communicating your skills, confidence and professionalism to employers and potential clients alike.

Our Programme directly addresses a range of critical competencies identified by bodies such as IEMA and CIEEM, and answers the call to close key skills gaps as cited by the UK Natural Environment Research Council’s report: ‘Most Wanted II: Postgraduate and Professional Skills Needs in the Environmental Sector report (2012)’.

- **Science and Fieldwork**: an inter-disciplinary foundation of theory and scientific knowledge and techniques, ecological systems and processes; an ability to problem-solve, an evidence-based approach and use of findings to objectively inform decision-making, and apply within ‘real-world’ situations in the UK and globally; Gain a strong portfolio of practical experience and techniques to enable investigations in a range of field settings.

- **Data Management**: a critical and scientific approach to data collection, storage, analysis, interpretation and reporting, in line with the needs of different audiences and stakeholders; Strong numeracy and quantitative skills applicable to a range of ecological and environmental contexts.

- **Planning and Influencing (Field Project)**: conducting and managing projects; supporting and informing ecological and environmental strategy, and contributing to responsible and measurable solutions; Use of knowledge to provide informed and authoritative recommendations and guidance to others; Ability to communicate results and findings to people at all levels in different contexts, and to promote or change attitudes and behaviours (to engage, influence, challenge, promote and lead).

Overall, the Programme provides training in a number of areas including techniques for surveying a wide range of species and habitats; scientific method; data analysis and statistics; critical interpretation and reporting.

A. **Key Competencies that the short courses cover include**:

- Survey skills and techniques for biodiversity, ecological and environmental management and assessment (habitat and/or species surveys; planning and implementation; identification and evaluation)

- Statistical principles and methods: understanding and application
• Critical analysis, interpretation and reporting of ecological, biodiversity and environmental data to inform decision-making
• Communication of ecological, environmental and biodiversity data and information to a professional or stakeholder audience

B. Additional Key Competencies that the Postgraduate Certificate offers:

• Applying a scientific method to solving ecological problems (scientific research design with questions and hypotheses; collection of primary and secondary data and meta-data; analysis; interpretation and appropriate reporting)
• Visualisation and analysis of spatial data via mapping, GIS and spatial analysis
• Initiating and managing a field project (UK or overseas) and complying with all aspects of health & safety, biosecurity, ethical reviews, legislation, either independently or as part of a collaboration with industry or NGO

The Programme is designed to enable practitioners and professionals to contribute to a wide professional community.

The Programme will also be of value to those looking to take the next step in a career change or prepare them for further research.

Should further information be required from Oxford to support accreditation by a professional body, please contact the Programme Manager via email on est@conted.ox.ac.uk.