

› SER Summer School

RESTORATION ECOLOGY 2009

Species introduction and management of biodiversity in restoration projects



University of Münster - Germany
29th of June - 3rd of July 2009

General Information

In summer 2009, a 5-day summer school programme on "Species introduction and management of biodiversity in restoration projects" will be held at the University of Münster under the auspices of the Society of Ecological Restoration Europe (SER Europe). This course is primarily intended for PhD students who work in restoration ecology and related fields.



The programme includes lectures of specialists to provide theoretical background, field work and excursions to train practical research skills and learn about restoration projects on-site, as well as short presentations of research projects by the participants. Thus, the course will provide students with a general overview on restoration ecology as well as detailed information on projects, techniques and skills. It will also give a frame for intensive exchange between participants and lecturers.

Thematic Framework

Traditionally, abiotic factors such as raised nutrient levels and changes in hydrology were thought to be the major constraints to the restoration of endangered communities and ecosystems. The experience of the past decade taught us that factors such as habitat fragmentation, seed bank depletion, dispersal-, seed- and microsite limitation are of similar or even higher importance. Besides these natural constraints the wise and sustainable management of semi-natural habitats is often a major challenge after successful restoration.



The course will provide contributions to all these aspects including abiotic site conditions, seed bank persistence and dispersal, recruitment, population genetics, techniques for the re-establishment of target species and communities and the implementation of suitable management schemes to maintain habitats and preserve biodiversity.

Programme

Morning programme | Lectures of specialists to provide theoretical background
Afternoon programme | Field work and excursions to train practical research skills and learn about restoration projects on-site

Evening programme | Presentation and discussion of the students' own work and social programme

A detailed programme will be available on our website!

Organiser

Working Group Ecosystem Research | University of Münster/Germany



Under the auspices of
Society for Ecological Restoration | European Chapter



Contact

Working Group Ecosystem Research
Institute of Landscape Ecology
University of Münster

Prof. Dr. Norbert Hözel

Robert-Koch-Str. 28
D-48149 Münster
phone +49(0)251-83 33 994
fax +49(0)251-83 38 338
nhoelzel@uni-muenster.de

[www.uni-muenster.de/
Restorationssummerschool](http://www.uni-muenster.de/Restorationssummerschool)

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Topics

- general introduction to restoration ecology
- restoring soil microbial communities – the importance of below ground processes
- the role of seed banks and germination in restoration
- the role of seed provenance in restoration
- restoring plant communities by diaspora transfer
- plant-animal interactions in restoration – pollination as a key process
- restoring animal communities – dispersal as a key factor
- management of faunistic diversity
- restoration management in degraded fens and bogs
- reintroduction of plant species to acidified grass- and heathlands
- counteracting atmospheric nutrient deposition in heathlands
- grazing as a tool in restoration
- restoration in practice – evaluation of methods
- restoring meadow bird communities
- application of multivariate statistics in restoration ecology



Costs

The **Summer School fee** includes overnight stay with breakfast (Youth Hostel), lunch and a come together and farewell party. The organisers also carry all further costs for lecture rooms, working facilities, travelling during the course and general course organisation.

The Summer School fee will be 150 € and has to be paid after confirmation of participation.

Students have to pay their own travel costs to Münster and back home as well as costs for dinner.

Application

Interested PhD students should **apply before April 1st 2009**.

The application should include a complete postal address and e-mail address together with a short description of the topic of the student's PhD research and motivation for attending this summer school. Please send your application (preferably by e-mail) to Norbert Hölzel.

Confirmation of participation will be made until May 1st 2009, and more detailed information will be send to the participants shortly afterwards.

The number of participants will be 20.

For further questions please contact Norbert Hölzel.

For more information on the

› SER Summer School **RESTORATION ECOLOGY 2009**
please visit our website:

www.uni-muenster.de/Restorationssummerschool

Lecturers

(preliminary list)

- Armin Bischoff (Anger, FR)
- Roland Bobbink (Nijmegen, NL)
- Martin Diekmann (Bremen, D)
- Rudy van Diggelen (Antwerp, B)
- Tobias Donath (Gießen, D)
- Carsten Eichberg (Darmstadt, D)
- Thomas Fartmann (Münster, D)
- Werner Härdtle (Lüneburg, D)
- Jim Harris (Cranfield, GB)
- Norbert Hölzel (Münster, D)
- Kai Jensen (Hamburg, D)
- Kathrin Kiehl (Osnabrück, D)
- Anita Kirmer (Bernburg, D)
- Michael Kuhlmann (London, GB)
- Ilona Leyer (Marburg, D)
- Alfons Smolders (Nijmegen, NL)



Local Information

City of Münster - The World's Most Liveable City

Münster is a city with the history of a medieval town, but also a very lively university city. It is one of the most bicycle friendly cities in Germany, famous for its student life in historic pubs, culture and clubs at the old docs area, the Peace of Westphalia in 1648, the Rieselfelder Bird Sanctuary, and much more...

More about Münster on www.muenster.de.

