



Hands-On Permaculture Design Certificate Course

The Permaculture Design Certificate Course is a training utilizing Bill Mollison's "Permaculture: A Designer's Manual" as the essential text. The goal is to achieve a working understanding in ecologically-based planning, site design and management. Areas covered during the course include:

- Permaculture principles
- Concepts and themes in design
 - The local ecosystem
- Forms of eco-gardening and farming
 - Broad scale site design
- The application of specific methods, laws and principles to design
 - Pattern understanding
 - Climatic factors
 - Plants and trees and their energy interactions
- Water, soils, earth-working and earth resources
 - Zone and sector analysis
 - Food forests and small animal husbandry
 - Harvest and natural forests
 - Aquaculture
 - Planning the homestead
- Structures and the built environment
 - Craftwork and chores
 - Equipment, tools and vehicles
- Renewable energy and energy conservation
 - Waste management and recycling
- Permaculture strategies for different climates
 - Urban and suburban Permaculture
- Small farm & garden management & marketing
 - Strategies of an alternative global nation
 - Practical work on design

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Wayne Weiseman is certified by The Permaculture Institute of Australia as an instructor of the Permaculture Design Certificate Course. He is also certified by the American Institute of Architecture to teach continuing education in Permaculture to licensed archi-

tects and landscape architects. Wayne has taught and lectured internationally for many years. Wayne is Director of The Permaculture Project LLC, a full-service, international consulting and educational business promoting the ideas of eco-agriculture, renewable energy resources and eco-construction methods. For many years he managed a land-based, self-reliant community project combining organic crop/food production, ecologically-built shelter, renewable energy, appropriate technologies.



"Cultures cannot survive without a sustainable agricultural base and land use ethic. Permaculture is about the relationships we can create between minerals, plants, animals and humans by the way we place them in the landscape. The aim is to create systems that are ecologically sound and economically viable, which provide for their own needs, do not exploit or pollute, and are therefore sustainable in the long term."

Bill Mollison

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The Permaculture 8-Day Design Certificate Course



The Permaculture Design Certificate Course works to help build the proper eco-skills necessary in all areas of life.

"We seek to create positive and ethical lifestyle change, develop ecological and environmental harmony and stability for future generations, and teach appropriate technologies that sustain rather than harm."

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“There is presently no other way for humans to educate themselves for either their survival or fulfillment than through the instruction available through the natural world.”

Thomas Berry



Permaculture is about whole systems, not about separate components. Because each element in a landscape or the built environment affects every other element at a site, a complete, comprehensive assessment is tantamount to develop healthy, productive, energy efficient relationships between elements for the benefit of everyone and everything involved in day to day operations and life. By paying attention to all details: topography, climate, water, wind, sun, activity nodes and corridors, buildings, machinery and tools, the waste stream, plants and animals, it enables us to make best use of what is already on the ground, and what we intend to put there. With a dynamic interaction of elements in process, and an assessment of both spatial and temporal attributes, organized around sound ecological principles, we can maximize yields and balance the landscape.

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Permaculture is about designing ecological human habitats and food production systems. It is a land use and community building movement that strives for the harmonious integration of human dwellings, microclimate, annual and perennial plants, animals, soils, and water into stable, productive communities. The focus is not on these elements themselves, but rather in the relationships created among them by the way we place them in the landscape. This synergy is further enhanced by mimicking patterns found in nature. A central theme in Permaculture is the design of ecological landscapes that produce food.



Emphasis is placed on multi-use plants, cultural practices such as sheet mulching and trellising, and the integration

of animals to recycle nutrients and graze weeds.

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However, Permaculture entails much more than just food production. Energy-efficient buildings, waste water treatment, recycling, and land stewardship in general are other important components of Permaculture. More recently, Permaculture has expanded its purview to include economic and social structures that support the evolution and development of more permanent communities, such as co-housing and eco-villages. As such, Permaculture design concepts are applicable to urban as well as rural settings, and are appropriate for single households as well as whole farms and villages. From households to bioregional planning, Permaculture design is not limited by scale.

Ultimately, we can achieve ecological balance by synthesizing applied biology, eco-technology and integrative architecture: the merging of renewable energies and biological earth– systems.



“We must create designs for human settlements that incorporate principles inherent in the natural world in order to sustain human populations over a long span of time.”

John Todd

Permaculture is a copyrighted word of the Permaculture Institute of Australia. Graduates of the certificate course are permitted to use the term Permaculture in their choice of livelihood.

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