



Estación
Biológica
Doñana



Many conservation genetics tools have been developed for use in temperate other high latitude habitats, and so not all of these tools translate to the tropics. Tropical habitats share some features which complicate the application of some conservation genetics tools which are heavily relied upon in higher latitudes, and also share some basic questions and problems that are less of an issue in higher latitudes or other, better studies and/ or less diverse habitats.

This course is designed with students and practitioners of Conservation Biology or Conservation Genetics in the tropical regions of America, Africa and Asia in mind.

Logistics

This course will take place **October 18 - 21 and 25 - 28** entirely **online**, hosted by the [Estación Biológica de Doñana – CSIC](#).

In order to best accommodate people across many time zones, this course will consist of a combination of pre-recorded lectures and seminars, and synchronous discussions and practicals.

It will tentatively take half working time, although some variation may be due to workshop participation.

The course will be held in English.

The **cost** of the course is **€95**. [Scholarships available](#) for researchers and practitioners from tropical countries who commit to full participation.

How to apply? Please, send the [application form](#) to <mailto:mconsgentropics@consevol.org>

Course topics

This course will discuss practical issues, genetic and genomic theory, tools and analyses as applied to issues relevant to conservation in the tropics.

Some basic questions of conservation importance include describing species diversity, determining species distributions, characterizing the basic biology of species, and understanding demographic history and population size and structure. Underlying biogeographic histories that have shaped communities, and the biotic interactions within those communities are also of fundamental importance.

Biogeography

An understanding of the general patterns underlying observed biodiversity will help determine what the major drivers are, and predict where described diversity could be found.

Species identification

The species diversity in the tropics is still dramatically underdescribed, even in groups such as vertebrates. The combination of different data sets and analyses may help identify new species. Phylogenetic trees have been important in species prediction, but describing a new species is much more than sequencing the mitochondria.

Species distribution

The distribution of many species in the tropics is unknown, but fundamental to conservation. New tools including eDNA can be used to glean information on the distributions of a wide variety of taxa.

Basic biology

Genetic tools can be used to learn about the basic biology of little known, often difficult to observe taxa such as diet, social structure of community, and dispersal.

Populations

A characterization of the population(s) is fundamental to conservation, and includes questions such as what are the populations? How many individuals are in the populations? How are the populations related, and how much gene flow occurs? What is the demographic history of the population?

Course instructors

-Pending updates-

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