

# PE&RC Messages

## March 2018

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Resilience of living systems: From fundamental concepts to interdisciplinary applications (29 April – 4 May 2018)

During the course, the participants will learn about the basic concepts of resilience and their application, from an interdisciplinary perspective (micro-biome to socio-ecological systems). Accordingly, we will address how resilience theory can be used to tackle fundamental and societal issues from a socio-economic and bio-physical perspective and will provide a critical reflection on the relevance, use, and applicability of the concept of resilience. The course is organised by the Graduate Schools WIAS and PE&RC.

#### Survival Analysis (17 - 18 May 2018)

In this short course, the concept of survival analysis will be introduced and it will be shown how to apply the methods to biological data. Main topics are how to handle censored data, estimation of Kaplan-Meier survivor curves, the Log-Rank test, and Cox' regression models for estimating and testing effects of covariates.

#### Fundamentals in crop physiology in a changing world (3 - 8 June 2018)

The course focusses on the fundamental knowledge and insight one must have about crops to be able to adapt agronomic practices to the changing world. Here the changing world refers to the environment, increased demands on sustainable production and food quality.

### PE&RC Postgraduate courses

- **Basic Statistics** (8, 9, 14, 15, 16 May 2018)  
*This is a refresher course. The level is that of a second course in Statistics. We will refresh basic knowledge of Probability, Statistical Inference (Estimation and Testing), t-tests, simple cases of Regression and ANOVA, Experimental Design, Nonparametric Tests, and Chi-square Tests. Some time is reserved to discuss statistical problems of the participants.*
- **Introduction to R for Statistical Analysis** (17 - 18 May 2018)  
*The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to R, a language and environment for statistical computing and graphics. Focus of the course will be on getting familiar with the R environment, to use R for manipulation and exploration of data, and to perform simple statistical analyses. Hands-on exercises will form a large part of the workshop.*
- **Design of Experiments** (23 - 25 May 2018)  
*The design and analysis of experiments, using plants, animals, or humans, are an important part of the scientific process. Proper design of an experiment, apart from its proper analysis and interpretation, is important to convince a researcher that your results are valid and that your conclusions are meaningful.*
- **Linear Models** (8, 11 and 12 June 2018)  
*In this module we continue with Regression, ANOVA, and ANCOVA, set in the general framework of Linear Models. We look at topics like parameter estimation and interpretation, checking model assumptions, regression diagnostics, analysis of unbalanced designs and multiple comparisons.*
- **Generalized linear Models** (14 - 15 June 2018)  
*In this module we study how to analyse data that are not normally distributed. We look at fractions (logistic regression), counts (Poisson regression, log-linear models), ordinal data (threshold models), and overdispersion. We discuss (quasi-) maximum likelihood estimation and the deviance.*
- **Mixed linear Models** (21 - 22 June 2018)  
*In this module we discuss how to analyse data for which the assumption of independence is violated. So: Do you have a nested experimental set-up? Or repeated measurements? Or weight of the same animal over time? Or pseudo-replication? Then, you are likely to need Mixed Models. In this course, you will learn all about it!*
- **On-site PhD course in Lapland, Sweden: Conflicting Demands in European Forests – a wicked problem?** (24 June – 2 July 2018)  
*More and more, we are confronted with conflicting demands when trying to develop sustainable land-use strategies, resulting in so-called wicked problems. Scientists working on such wicked problems need to be trained to work in trans-, multi- and interdisciplinary teams of experts with various scientific backgrounds, such as ecologists, economists, political, and social scientists. This course aims to teach them the skills they need for working in such diverse teams, by means of a real-life*

case. The course is focused around Gällivare, a small town in the far north of Sweden, where one can find the "last wilderness of Boreal Europe", part of an UNESCO World Heritage Site with large nature reserves and national parks. At the same time, it has an active mining industry, forestry, reindeer herding and tourism. It is a perfect place for land use and land use change discussions. A travel subsidy is available for PE&RC PhD candidates.

- **[Meta Analysis](#)** (4 - 5 July 2018)  
Researchers trying to summarize the constantly growing body of published research are increasingly using meta-analysis. The focus of this 2-day course will be on concepts of linear models and mixed linear models in meta-analysis. The statistical software R will be used.
- **Pre-announcement: On-site PhD course on Farming Systems and Rural Livelihoods (Uganda)** (15 - 29 September 2018)  
This course provides skills and methods to analyse (the dynamics of) farming systems as embedded in the complex livelihoods of rural people in Africa. Typically, these skills and methods integrate agro-ecological analyses with understandings of the social organization of agricultural production, and the differential ways in which the wider socio-economic environment impacts on farming systems (e.g. the importance of rural-urban linkages, socio-cultural orientations in rural livelihoods, farm investment patterns, labour allocations. Special attention will be given to the vulnerability of agricultural production and aspects of food security in the face of global environmental, social and economic change. Tools for exploration of the adaptive capacity of rural livelihoods and their rural-urban connections will also be reviewed critically. More information and a registration form will become available very soon.
- **[Uncertainty Propagation in Modelling](#)** (10 - 14 December 2018)  
The purpose of this course is to familiarize participants with statistical methods to analyse uncertainty propagation in spatial modelling, such that they can apply these methods to their own models and data. Both attribute and positional errors are considered. Attention is also given to the effects of spatial auto- and cross-correlations on the results of an uncertainty propagation analysis. Computer practicals make use of the R language for statistical computing.

## Other Postgraduate courses

- **[Summer School on agroecology and animal production \(first week of July 2018\)](#)** @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (2 July - 6 July 2018)

## Career development, skills and competences

- For a complete overview of this type of courses offered by **Wageningen University & Research**, please click [here](#).
- For a complete overview of this type of courses offered by the **Graduate School of Life Sciences at Utrecht University**, please click [here](#).
- For a complete overview of this type of courses offered by **Leiden University**, please click [here](#).
- For a complete overview of this type of courses offered by **The Graduate School of Science at the University of Amsterdam**, please click [here](#).

Note that when you would want to have a course like this organised at your own institute, please contact [Claudius van de Vijver](#)

## Symposia, Lectures, Workshops, Seminars and other activities

- **[Network Event TKI Horticulture & Propagation Materials](#)** @ NBC Nieuwegein, the Netherlands (3 April 2018)
- **[A Global One Health symposium](#)** @ Wageningen, Wisdom and Wonder Pavilion, the Netherlands (5 April 2018)
- **[Workshop on Transdisciplinarity for the Sustainable Development Goals](#)**, Academiegebouw Utrecht, the Netherlands (6 April 2018)
- **[The First Meeting of the Netherlands Society for Evolutionary Biology \(NLSEB\)](#)** @ Akoesticum, Ede, the Netherlands (11 April 2018)
- **[Land-Water-Food Nexus: Towards sustainable food production in China & other regions](#)** @ Wageningen, Orion building, the Netherlands (8 May 2018)
- **[6<sup>th</sup> Plant Genomics and Gene Editing Congress Europe](#)** @ Rotterdam, the Netherlands (14-15 May 2018)
- **[5<sup>th</sup> Annual Wageningen PhD Symposium 2018, Bridging Science and Society: Unifying Knowledge](#)** @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (17 May 2018)

- [Symposium and Workshop: Principles and dynamics governing transmission of mycobacterial infection](#) @ Wageningen, Zodiac, the Netherlands (22-24 May 2018)
- [Workshops Crop Management and Development of Innovative Cropping Systems](#) @ Cambridge, United Kingdom (29 – 30 May 2018)
- [Tropentag 2018](#) @ Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium (17 – 19 September 2018)
- [International Conference on Ecological Sciences](#) @ Rennes, France (22 - 25 October 2018)

## PE&RC Discussion group meetings

- [B-Wise lunch meeting](#) (3 April 2018 - 12:30h)  
*Guest speaker is Jeroen de Ridder (Utrecht University Medical Centre), who will talk about using contact maps to investigate 3D genome architecture. Additionally, Miguel Correa from the WUR Bioinformatics group will present on his PhD research protein-protein interactions.*
- [WEES Seminar - Extreme tactics of plant virus transmission: from seed dispersion to parasitic castration](#) (5 April 2018 - 16:00h)  
*Assistant Prof. Israel Pagán, Centro de Biotecnología y Genómica de Plantas, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (ESP), will give a lecture called 'Extreme tactics of plant virus transmission' in the Orion building.*

For a complete overview of all PE&RC discussion groups, please click [here](#).

## Position Announcements

- For job vacancies, check [our website](#).

## Calls and other information

- [PE&RC Visiting Scientists call 2018](#) (Deadline: 16 April 2018)  
*The objectives of the PE&RC Visiting Scientist grants are to stimulate scientific quality of research within PE&RC and to strengthen international relations.*
- [Funds to publish in an Open Access journal](#) (Deadline: Continuous application)  
*Since the rise of fully Open Access journals some 15 years ago, there is a possibility to disseminate your research more widely. Some publishers nowadays also offer the option to make an individual article from subscription journals Open Access. WUR Library supports you in Open Access publishing. Find out what your possibilities are or contact us for immediate support.*
- [NWO Visitor's Travel Grants](#) (Deadline: Continuous application)  
*Researchers in the Netherlands can apply for a visitor's grant for highly qualified senior researchers from abroad who hold a PhD. With this grant these researchers can stay in the Netherlands for a maximum of four months)*

If you have information that you would like to have included in the PE&RC messages, please send this information to [Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl](mailto:Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl)

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