



PE&RC Messages

April 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

[The Art of Modelling](#) (12-23 June 2017)

Modelling is a crucial part of today's science. Particularly in agronomy, ecology and environmental sciences, where models are used for assessing sensitivity of systems to disturbances or changes in external factors, and for predictions of future system states. This course provides an introduction to modelling. Modelling concepts will be dealt with in detail, going through the basic steps to be taken

[Summer School: Animal Movement Analysis](#) (2-7 July 2017)

The aim of this course is to provide participants with skills to assist them in working with animal movement data including data management and organization, working with large tracking datasets, data exploration, visualization and analysis of movement data. Location: The Institute for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Dynamics (IBED), University of Amsterdam.

PE&RC Postgraduate courses

- [Masterclass Adoption of agricultural and conservation practice](#) (2 May 2017)
This course will examine individual's behaviour towards adopting conservation practices using different approaches that include economic, social and psychological aspects of the decision making process.
- [Introduction to R for statistical analysis](#) (8-9 May 2017)
The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to R, a language and environment for statistical computing and graphics. Focus 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 Global Soil Information Facilities 2017](#) (15-19 May 2017)
The aim of this ISRIC course is to introduce various components of GSIF and provide hands-on training within the R environment for statistical computing.
- [World Soils and their Assessment 2017](#) (15-19 May 2017)
This is an ISRIC course on international standards for soils classification and assessment. It will provide an introduction to the soils of the world and their diversity, their main forming factors, classification (according to the World Reference Base for Soil Resources 2014), and management.
- [Plant Nutrients in Terrestrial Ecosystems – acquisition and turnover](#) (15-19 May 2017)
Upon completing the course the student will have achieved state-of-the-art knowledge on: Concepts and theories underlying nutrient use efficiency and sustainable use of plant nutrients, Concepts and methodologies used for studying plant nutrition and soil fertility, Processes that determine acquisition and utilization of plant nutrients and their turnover and bio-availability in soils and fertilizers.
- [Design of Experiments](#) (19-23 May 2017)
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](#) (7-9 June 2017)
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.

- **[Political Ecologies in/of the Anthropocene: value, life and critique](#)** (21–27 June 2017)
The summer school covers two broad and interrelated thematic areas of interest in contemporary political ecology: The emergence of the 'Anthropocene' and its competitors and The value of life in the Anthropocene.
- **[Generalized Linear Models](#)** (26–27 June 2017)
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.
- **[Agent-based modelling for resilience](#)** (26-30 June 2017)
Resilience of systems is a major research challenge for our world's future. The systems in which our societies operate have social, ecological and technical components that are ever more connected. Agent-based modelling is one of the techniques for investigating complex, surprising behaviour of these systems.
- **[Mixed Linear Models](#)** (29–30 June 2017)
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!
- **[Animal Movement Analysis](#)** (2-7 July 2017)
The aim of this course is to provide participants with skills to assist them in working with animal movement data including data management and organization, working with large tracking datasets, data exploration, visualization and analysis of movement data.
- **[Environmental Signalling in Plants](#)** (28-30 August 2017)
The PhD Summer School has an attractive program with many expert speakers in the field of environmental signalling in plants.
- **[Multivariate Analysis](#)** (17, 18, 19, 25, 26 October 2017)
The course is mainly based on the book "Multivariate Analysis of Ecological Data Using CANOCO 5" by Petr Smilauer and Jan Leps (2014). Practical exercises, the use of Canoco for Windows (4.5) and GenStat for Windows and interpretation of the output are important elements of the course.
- **[Bayesian Statistics](#)** (25–26 October 2017)
Nowadays, Bayesian statistics is becoming a powerful alternative for traditional Frequentistic statistics. Participants will be surprised how easy they can tackle problems that are quite complicated to handle with traditional Frequentistic statistics.

PE&RC Discussion group meetings

- **[PSI Discussion Group: The effect of drought and rewetting on soil microbes \(Annelein Meisner \(Lund University\)\)](#)** (3 May 2017)
The discussion group Plant-Soil Interactions (PSI) offers a platform of discussion, meeting and networking amongst fellow plant & soil researchers (to stay informed, contact: plantsrock.wageningen@gmail.com)
- **For a complete overview of all PE&RC discussion groups, please click [here](#).**

Career development, skills and competences and career development

- An extra edition of the **WGS Scientific Writing Course** starts on the 24th of May. For more details please click [here](#).
- **Wageningen Graduate Schools** offers an array of these courses. For a complete overview please click [here](#).

Note that all PE&RC PhDs can participate in these courses but that only the WU PhDs are eligible for the reduced fee. Also note that when you would want to have one of these courses to be organised at your own institute to please contact [Claudius van de Vijver \(Claudius.vandevijver@wur.nl\)](mailto:Claudius.vandevijver@wur.nl)

Symposia, Lectures, Workshops, Seminars and other activities

- [4th Annual Wageningen PhD symposium, Sciences: From Local to Global](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (3 May 2017)
- [Training week on Agroecology](#) @ Wanze, Belgium (8–12 May 2017)
- [AGILE International Conference on Geographic Information Science](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (9-12 May 2017)
- [Posters and Pitching](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (11 May, 18 May and 8 June 2017)
- [DSSAT 2017](#) @ The University of Georgia, Griffin, USA (15-20 May 2017)
- [IPPN Affordable Phenotyping Workshop](#) @ Jülich, Germany (15–17 May 2017)
- [Frontiers in Ecology: The soil-plant interphase](#) @ Orion building, Wageningen University Campus, the Netherlands (17 May 2017)
- [Epigenesis and epigenics](#) @ Wageningen University, The Netherlands (31 May – 2 June 2017)
- [International BioBased Economy Student SymbioSUM \(IBBESS\) 2017](#) @ Wageningen University, The Netherlands (16-18 June 2017)
- [Conference Pedometrics 2017](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (27 June – 1 July 2017)
- [International Conference: The Value of Life: Measurement, Stakes, Implications](#) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands (28-30 June 2017)
- [BES Symposium 2017 – The Macroecology of Alien Species: Pattern, Drivers, and Consequences of Global Biotic Exchange](#) @ Durham University, United Kingdom (24–26 July 2017)
- [Summer School in Land System Science](#) @ Filzbach Glarus-Nord, Switzerland (27 August – 1 September 2017)
- [International Congress “Invertebrate Reproduction and Development, Featuring Rhythms of Life and their Alteractions](#) @ Napoli and Firenze, Italy (28 August – 2 September 2017)
- [Fundamentals of Life in the Universe Symposium](#) @ Energy Academy Building, Zernike Campus, Nijenborgh 6, Groningen, the Netherlands (31 August – 1 September 2017)
- [Quantitative Ecology \(Module for Master students and PhD Candidates\)](#) @ Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic (October 2017 – January 2018)
- [3rd International Conference on Global Food Security](#) @ Cape Town, South Africa (3–6 December 2017)
- [Joint Annual Meeting: Ecology Across Borders](#) @ ICC, Ghent, Belgium (11–14 December 2017)

Position Announcements

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

Others

- [WU Postdoc Talent Programme call 2017](#) (Deadline: 1 May 2017)
- [Funds to publish in an Open Access Journal](#) (Deadline: Continuous application. These funds are only for Wageningen University & Research members. All other Universities have their own funds for publishing in an Open Access Journal)
- [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)
- [Van Gogh Programme](#) (Deadline: Continuous application. Dutch and French researchers who wish to start or continue

research cooperation under the Van Gogh Programme can now submit their application for a travel grant for 2016-2017)

If you have information that you would like to have included in PE&RC messages, please send this information to Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl before the first of the month.

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