

Permaculture Design Certificate Course

Take your PDC in Beautiful Kyrgyzstan!

June 24 - July 5, 2013



The Permaculture Design Certificate course is a 72 hour course taught over a 2 week time span that is recognized world-wide. It is taught in such a way as to give an introduction to the Permaculture principles set forth by Bill Mollison and David Holmgren. This course will be taught by Silk Road Permaculture director, Amadeus DeKastle and co-founder, Calvin Lawrence.



Amadeus DeKastle has received degrees in both Environmental Biology and Education before going on to take a PDC from the internationally known Mustafa Bakir in 2012. He currently lives in Kyrgyzstan where he is the director of Silk Road Permaculture.

Calvin Lawrence holds a degree in Agriculture with a specialization in animal nutrition and greenhouse management. He received his PDC from Amadeus DeKastle in 2012 and is a co-founder of Silk Road Permaculture

To Learn More and Apply Visit www.silkroadpermaculture.org





Silk Road Permaculture

Design and Consultancy

PDC Course Information

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About the teachers:

Amadeus DeKastle has been fascinated by Permaculture principles for as long as he can remember. Starting at an early age he began studying Entomology. His interests soon began to flood over into Ecology, which opened up the doors to Permaculture. He received degrees in both Environmental Biology and Education before going on to take a PDC from the internationally known Mustafa Bakir in 2012. He currently lives in Kyrgyzstan where he is the co-founder and director of Silk Road Permaculture.

Calvin Lawrence holds a degree in Agriculture with a specialization in animal nutrition and reproduction as well as greenhouse management. He received his PDC from Amadeus DeKastle in 2012 and has been actively involved in many Permaculture projects since. He currently lives in Kyrgyzstan where he is a co-founder of Silk Road Permaculture.

What is Permaculture?

Permaculture is the assembly of elements within a fully functional ecosystem that is inhabited by man. Before understanding how to create an anthropocentric ecosystem, we need to understand the role and pattern of a natural ecosystem.

In a natural ecosystem all the different organisms play a vital role in the development and sustainability of the other parts. Ecosystems work through mutual relationships that benefit each other. A great example is the flower and the bee. Without the flower there is no food for bees, yet without the bees, the flower does not produce fruit. Ecosystems are therefore necessarily quite diverse. Without diversity, ecosystems lack the sustainability to create production, and eventually begin to fail, often giving way to desertification.

Permaculture uses the foundations exhibited by natural ecosystem to create a “manufactured” ecosystem that allows the greatest possible production available for human use, while still maintaining the balance necessary to sustain the system. All Permaculture does is look at the way natural systems are formed from their inception and then follow that pattern. This is a phenomenon called succession. Every ecosystem follows the same basic pattern to reach a

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fully diverse and sustainable system. In nature this can take hundreds of years, but with some help from us it can be done in around 7-15 years.

The stages of ecosystem evolution can generally be broken down into three distinct stages: the pioneer stage, the intermediate stage, and the climax stage. The pioneer stage is where smaller herbaceous plants that have beneficial relationships with soil bacteria begin to grow and condition the soil for future plants which require more nutrient rich soil to grow. The intermediate stage sees bushes and small trees take over the role of the pioneer species and almost completely replace the pioneers. The climax stage is what we would think of as a fully producing system with full-grown trees, diverse wildlife, mutual and interdependent relationships everywhere, where all resources are being used by other parts of the ecosystem. The climax system is what we want to emulate in our man-made system. However, in our engineered ecosystem, everything will have at least two functions, which will increase the amount of productivity available.

With the natural ecosystem as a guide it is possible to find new ways to improve systems, increase production, and even introduce new species that are useful to us. The goal through Permaculture is not just to rehabilitate land, but also to make the land work for us in a way that emulates nature.

By the end of this 2-week PDC course you will have all the information you need to design systems that follow Permaculture principles. Your certificate will allow you to not only design in the Permaculture world, but to also teach students of your own.

Please note: This course will be taught in English with only **minimal** translation into Russian.

This course will cover topics including, but not limited to:

- Theory and principles of Permaculture
- Methods of design
- Understanding patterns in nature
- Water harvesting and management
- Drought-proofing
- Trees & their energy transactions
- Eco-friendly house placement and design
- Energy efficient architecture
- Energy conservation techniques for cold climates
- Earthworks & their use in earth repair
- Soils
- Soil rehabilitation and erosion control
- Organic food production
- Livestock
- Aquaculture
- Ecological pest control
- Humid tropics
- The temperate climates
- Humid cool climates
- Dry lands
- Strategies for urban and rural settings
- Recycling and waste management
- Right livelihood
- Catastrophe preparedness and prevention
- Money and finance
- Ethical investment
- Bio regional organisation
- Legal strategies and trusts
- Effective working groups
- Effective aid

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PDC Course Dates and Times:

Lectures: June 24, 2013 through July 5, 2013 (Sunday, June 29 & 30 are days off)

9 AM to 5 PM with breaks for morning and afternoon tea and lunch.

Location:

KEIIN Institute, Ivanovka, Kyrgyzstan: Approximately 45 minutes from Bishkek.

Application info:

Completed application forms should be emailed to adekastle@silkroadpermaculture.org

There is a class size limit of 30 students. Your application form and registration fee will ensure you a place in the class!

Course Fee, and Payment Information:

Due to the use of a Kyrgyz bank account, there are many different options for payment, which depend on what country you are from and/or the currency you are using. Please contact us during the application process to learn which methods may be appropriate for your situation.

Course cost is 450 Euros for all non-Central Asian citizens.

Course cost is 5000 Kyrgyz Som for all Central Asian citizens. *

Registration fee of 50 Euros or 500 Som is required to be registered for the course.

Please note that the registration fee is non-refundable.

Full payment must be made before the course begins.

Early registrations (before June 1, 2013) will be given a 5% discount.

Any late registrations (after June 25, 2013) or accounts not paid in full will be charged 5% extra.

*Central Asian countries include: Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, and the Xinjiang region of China. Please provide proof of citizenship to qualify for the discounted cost.

Meals:

Included in the course fee is lunch plus morning and afternoon teas. If you have any special dietary needs, please be sure to provide it yourself, as we cannot accommodate everyone's needs with our small kitchen.

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Accommodation and Transportation:

Students will need to arrange their own accommodation beforehand. There are many hotels and hostels in Bishkek that are quite affordable.

Transportation to and from KEIIN Institute from Bishkek will be provided by local transportation, but you may feel free to use another form of transport if you desire.

More information about accommodation and transportation times will be provided to registered students.

Inquiries:

International phone: +996-555-20-48-55

Email: adekastle@silkroadpermaculture.org

Web Address: www.silkroadpermaculture.org

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