



# Field Research and Monitoring Techniques

## Short Courses:

We have 3 options for our Research and Monitoring Techniques courses

1. Introduction – 2 weeks
2. Terrestrial or Marine Research and Monitoring Techniques – 4 weeks
3. Terrestrial and Marine Research and Monitoring Techniques – 6 weeks

## We are open to options:

Talk to us about how you could “mix and match” – for example do the introductory course online, then join for your choice of Terrestrial and Marine.

OR- Do the introductory course and join for the other courses at a different time.

There is not pre-requisite for the introductory course.

The pre-requisite for the Terrestrial and Marine courses is the Introductory course

## Who is this course for?

- Anyone who is planning to or is currently completing an ecology, conservation or environmental sciences qualification- many students use this as a **bridge to starting an Undergraduate, Honours or Masters’ Degree**
- Anyone who is interested in being a volunteer for organisations that offer volunteer programmes that include research and monitoring
- People working in the field of conservation and assisting with field research and conducting monitoring in the terrestrial and marine environments
- People interested in different research methods and wanting to learn how to apply these in the field for their own research or to assist researchers
- People working in the **guiding/tourism industry** who are interested in research methods, wanting to grow their guiding portfolio to offer the service of assisting visiting researchers in the field

## Where are we located?

Our main base is in Kei Mouth. Kei Mouth is a village in the Eastern Cape approximately 90 Km from East London.

To the North of Kei Mouth, is the ruggedly beautiful Wild Coast where one can follow in the footsteps of the shipwreck survivors, visit a local village, explore the hills on a mountain bike, canter along the beach on horseback or laze about in the calm waters of a secluded lagoon.

To the South, is the picturesque little village of Morgan Bay which boasts a mile long stretch of sandy beach, scenic cliffs and the idyllic Double Mouth Nature Reserve.

Our courses primarily take place in this area, with practical excursions to places such as Addo Elephant National Park, Trennery’s Hotel, and local Game and Nature Reserve.

**Come and join us in this special place for a learning adventure of a lifetime!**

Contact: Monica Maroun  
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Cell: 074 042 2996



We also do work on various reserves and private game farms, that often have all or some of the Big 5.

We provide a service of collecting data to suit a need of the reserve or farm owner, the techniques that we use are in line with the required technique on the reserve and are **techniques used internationally**, allowing for the **skills learnt to be used in research and monitoring worldwide**.

The data that we collect are not only used by our participants to do their assessments, but to assist reserves and private farm owners to better manage their properties, and ultimately lead to better conservation decisions being made.

### Online options available:

Complete the course online by 'attending' live lectures. (These will be recorded and available after the lectures)

Complete activities online

We pair you up with an onsite partner who is responsible for giving you information and data from field activities.

#### All courses include:

- Online access to all lectures
- Online access to all assessments and printed material where appropriate
- Access to Wi-fi for learning purposes
- Cost of all assessments
- Food
- Accommodation
- Transfers from East London Airport on day of arrival and departure
- Transfers to the reserve/s that we will be working on
- 2 x Chrysalis T-shirts and a cap

#### Not included:

- Field guides – we have some spare copies, but it is recommended that you have your own
- Binoculars
- Costs of visas
- Cost of flights

**See our Specials below**

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## Course 1:

# Introduction to Terrestrial Field Research and Monitoring Techniques

Duration: 2 Weeks

This is an introduction to the field of Research and Monitoring

### The course covers:

- An introduction to Conservation principles and Ethics
- An introduction to ecology and ecological principles
- An introduction to research and monitoring techniques
- How to use a field guide
- The focus is on doing vegetation surveys- using Alien Invasive Plants in a Nature Reserve or on a Private Farm as a case study
- The techniques learnt are in line with techniques used by researchers and monitors worldwide.
- This ensures that what is learnt can be adapted and applied worldwide.

You receive a certificate of participation, that lists the modules and techniques learnt during the course.

### 2021 Dates:

- 15 February – 26 February 2021
- 24 May – 6 June 2021
- 16 August – 27 August 2021

### Cost:

**Onsite special: Normally R 14 000**

**COVID Recovery Special: R 10 000**

**Online COVID Recovery Special: R 2 000**

### What now:

1. Complete the application on [efunda.chrysalistraining.co.za](http://efunda.chrysalistraining.co.za) or email [info@chrysalistraining.co.za](mailto:info@chrysalistraining.co.za) for more info.

#### **When you have been accepted:**

2. Pay your deposit to secure your spot
3. Pay via the balance via with the agreed payment option
4. Arrive the weekend before your course starts
5. Enjoy your journey on this course with us!

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## Course 2: Terrestrial Field Research and Monitoring Techniques:

### Duration: 4 Weeks

This course goes into **more depth** than the introductory course, with **more time spent in the field**, and having **assessment tasks** attached. The final assessment task is a report and can be completed and submitted after the course.

If students wish to complete the final assessment for the opportunity of receiving a certificate of achievement for the Skills Programme, the final assessment will be completed after the course and submitted no later than 1 month after the course.

We work on various reserves and private game farms where we provide a service of collecting data to suit a need of the reserve or farm owner, the techniques that we use are in line with the required technique on the reserve and are techniques used internationally, allowing for the skills gained to be used in research and monitoring worldwide.

### The course covers:

- An introduction to conservation principles and ethics, with assessment tasks
- Ecology and Ecological principles, with the focus on the ecology of the area that we will be working in. Students complete practical assessment tasks where they apply what is learnt in this module
- How to use a field guide, with practical application assessments tasks

Much of the course is spent out in the field, practising and perfecting various research and monitoring techniques, these may include:

- Conducting basic rapid biodiversity assessments.
- Conducting basic visual encounter surveys.
- Qualitative assessments of dominant indicator species.

These are done in conjunction with:

- Vegetation surveys
- Data collection on Alien invasive plant species infestations
- Camera trap surveys
- Game counts
- Collecting and preserving specimens, such as tree and grass samples

Other survey techniques may be included if there is a need expressed by the partners that we are working with.

Successful candidates will receive a certificate of completion for Field Research and Monitoring Techniques. The option of converting this to the accredited Research Assistant skills programme will

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be available to all successful candidates who wish to receive the certificate for the Nationally Accredited Skills Programme.

This conversion will be offered to those who qualify for free once Chrysalis has confirmation of accreditation as a training provider with CATHSETA.

**2021 dates:**

**15 February – 12 March 2021**

**24 May – 18 June 2021**

**16 August – 10 September 2021**

**Cost:**

**2021 COVID Recovery Specials:**

**Onsite Normally R 28 000**

**COVID Recovery Special: R 20 000**

**Online COVID Recovery Special: R 4 000**

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## Course 3: Terrestrial and Marine Field Research and Monitoring Techniques:

Duration: 6 Weeks:

This course is our premium offering, with the added modules of Marine Ecology- focusing on Rocky Shores- and Marine Survey techniques, with a focus on Rocky Shore survey techniques, and where opportunity presents itself, we conduct surveys for marine researchers.

We are currently working closely with The Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA) as the Kei Mouth representatives for the Green Coast Awards. All student data collected and projects are in line with WESSA's research needs and data is made available to WESSA.

The course affords participants the opportunity to spend a large portion of their time in the field, learning not only, about the research and monitoring techniques taught, but also having the opportunity to spend time in nature and learn by being immersed in nature and the marine environment.

Where time and opportunity allow, we also do guided bush walks and early morning or evening game drives, for the enjoyment of it, and for participants to learn more about the African bushveld, and have some photo opportunities.

### **The course covers:**

- An introduction to conservation principles and ethics, with assessment tasks
- Ecology and Ecological principles, with the focus on the ecology of the area that we will be working in. Students complete practical assessment tasks where they apply what is learnt in this module

### **Much of the course is spent out in the field, practising and perfecting various research and monitoring techniques, these may include among others:**

- Rapid Conducting basic rapid biodiversity assessments.
- Conducting basic visual encounter surveys.
- Qualitative assessments of dominants indicator species.

### **These are done in conjunction with:**

- Data collection on Alien invasive plant species infestations
- Vegetation surveys
- Camera trap surveys
- Game counts
- Collecting and preserving specimens, such as tree and grass samples

Other survey techniques may be included if there is a need expressed by the partners that we are working with for example, a vegetation survey focussing on Elephant Damage Assessment in a Reserve.

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This course includes the **BONUS opportunity** of being involved in our quarterly Rocky Shore surveys conducted for the WESSA GREEN COAST AWARD, giving students the unique opportunity to assist with organising and managing data collection for a large citizen science project. We conduct the surveys in the week of the Equinox or Solstice full moons, as close as possible to the spring tide.

Rocky Shore data are collected over a 4 km stretch from the Kei River Mouth, to just before Morgan Bay.

This is a concentrated effort of data being collected for 20 – 30 transects, by 60 – 100 people all at the same time!

Students are trained to manage and ‘guide’ the general public in the methods use to collect and record the data. This real-life experience forms part of the practical assessment for this course.

During the course, you will complete various assignments and practical tasks, with a final report that needs to be submitted.

Should you successfully complete all of the requirements of the assessments, you will receive a certificate of completion for this course stating the modules and techniques covered in the course.

All training, and assessments are in line with a nationally accredited Skills Programme, named Research Assistant.

The course is already structured to meet all of the requirements of the Skills Programme and Chrysalis Training and Skills Development is currently applying for accreditation as a training provider with CATHSSETA and will shortly be able to offer the course as an accredited skills programme at NQF level 2. There will be an option for those who have successfully completed the course prior to accreditation, to apply for Recognition of Prior Learning – this will be offered free of charge to those who wish to convert their Certificate of Completion to a CATHSSETA accredited Skills Programme certificate.

The requirements of these unit standards meet the needs of property owners and managers for conducting research and monitoring activities. Chrysalis is committed to making learning and practical application of learner relevant to learners, and thus works with property owners and managers to have our students conduct meaningful surveys that lead to an outcome that is useful.

**2021 dates:**

**15 February – 26 March 2021**

**24 May – 30 June 2021**

**16 August – 24 September 2021**

**Cost:**

**2021 COVID Recovery Specials:**

**Onsite Normally R 42 000**

**COVID Recovery Special: R 30 000**

**Online COVID Recovery Special: R 6 000**

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We look forward to seeing you in the near future!

**Monica Maroun:**

**Director**

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**Follow us on Social Media for all the exciting things we do in our quest to  
Unleash Limitless Potential.**



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