

## **Sessional Instructor Opportunity (CUPE 4163 Comp 3)**

*Division of Continuing Studies (in collaboration with the School of Environmental Studies)*

**Course Title: ER 313: Biodiversity and Conservation Biology**

**Term offered: Fall of 2026**

The Division of Continuing Studies, University of Victoria, invites expressions of interest for a sessional instructor to teach ER 313: Biodiversity and Conservation Biology.

This course is offered through the Division of Continuing Studies as part of the Restoration of Natural Systems Program (RNS).

### **Course description**

This course introduces students to biodiversity and conservation biology as scientific disciplines focused on reducing the impacts of human activities on biological diversity. It explores the history and scope of conservation biology, including how the scientific approach is used to understand the natural world. Students will learn what biodiversity is, where it is found, and how it arises, as well as examine its value from economic, ethical, and ecological perspectives. The course also covers key principles of ecology and how they are applied in designing conservation projects and understanding population biology, particularly for small and endangered populations. In addition, it examines the current status of biodiversity and the effects of major threats such as habitat destruction, the introduction of non-native species, the spread of disease, and overexploitation.

Textbook used: Sher, Anna A. and Eduardo Gonzalez-Sargas, *An Introduction to Conservation Biology*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition.

### **Term and delivery**

Term: Fall 2026, Sep 9 – Dec 7

Delivery Format: Online Asynchronous over a 13-week period

### **Duties**

The instructor will be responsible for:

- Delivering the course in an online learning environment
- Facilitating student engagement and learning activities
- Assessing student work and assigning final grades
- Maintaining regular communication with students
- Coordinating with the RNS Program Coordinator regarding course delivery and expectations

### **Qualifications**

- Graduate degree (completed or in progress) in environmental studies, ecology, biology, or closely related field
- Demonstrated expertise in ecological restoration
- Demonstrated ability to support student learning (e.g., through teaching assistantships, facilitation, or professional training experience)
- Experience with online or continuing studies teaching is an asset

### **Appointment Details**

This appointment is covered by the CUPE Local 4163 (Component 3) Collective Agreement. The successful candidate will be compensated in accordance with the current sessional salary scale and associated provisions of the agreement. Appointment is conditional on sufficient student enrollment and budgetary approval.

### **How to Apply**

Applicants are invited to submit a CV and expression of interest detailing their qualifications, teaching approach and suitability for the position, to **Dr. Tusa Shea**, Program Coordinator, RNS, at [tusas@uvic.ca](mailto:tusas@uvic.ca).

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