

# Permaculture Design Certification Course

## Dates, Times & Fees

**Saturdays, 11 am - 5:30 pm, \$777**

### 2018

September 15 Introduction to Design  
October 13 Foundational Concepts  
November 10 Design Methods  
December 1 Design with Patterns

### 2019

January 5 Design for Soil  
February 2 Design for Trees  
March 2 Design for Animals  
April 6 Design for Water  
May 4 Design for Climate  
June 1 Cool Climate Design  
July 6 Tropical Design  
August 3 Dryland Design  
August 31 Social Permaculture  
September 28 OS Permaculture  
October 26 Graduation

These low cost, ultra-flexible courses cater to the busyness of modern life. If you miss a class you can jump in on the same module in a different class at no extra cost and there is no time limit to complete the certification.

## Program Content

### Session 1: Pretro

Group introductions

Course orientation & requirements

Group goals and guidelines

Communication (NVC and conflict resolution)

Learning styles & multiple intelligences

Learning Goals:

- Set a course culture of safety, respect and organization
- Create a positive & effective learning environment
- Encourage active listening in groups
- Value different ways of communicating and have confidence in utilizing tools of conflict resolution

- Orient participants to course content

## **Session 2: Foundations of Permaculture**

Definitions

History of Permaculture

Ethics

Principles

Learning Goals:

- Know the Permaculture ethics and the Transition ethic and how to apply them to conscious decision making
- Learn the basis of how the Permaculture movement began, how it has grown, some of its progeny's and how the lineage links to this course.
- Gain a strong understanding of nature's principles and how they are at the foundation of design decisions and application
- Provide awareness of the world's problems and the current situation
- Shift from a place of problems to positive solution based thinking
- Feel confident in defining Permaculture clearly to others

## **Session 3: Design Methods**

Needs, Functions and Outputs

Zones

Sectors

Mapping

Learning Goals:

- Understand how to do a needs & yields analysis
- Gain a base understanding of closed loop systems
- Observe a site, document and recognize available resources and design constraints based on analysis.
- Identify energies or influences that effect a design site
- Be able to create a base map including zones & sector analysis for a site
- Know the basic elements included in mapping a site

## **Session 4: Pattern Literacy**

Physical patterns, emergent patterns, fractal patterns

Functions of patterns

Patterns in time

Behavioural patterns

Application of patterns in design

Guides

Learning Goals:

- Pattern recognition in nature and technology
- Learn the functions of patterns in nature and how to apply that knowledge to effective design
- Gain Pattern literacy and understand how to replace dysfunctional patterns with functional ones.

- Know the functions of and feel confident designing guilds
- Recognize that pattern literacy is fundamental in becoming good designers

### **Session 5: Soil**

Soil biology

Soil classification and testing

Biodynamics

Soil remediation

Composting

Soil indicators

Learning Goals:

- Have a base understanding of the components of healthy soil and know the value of building soil.
- Know different ways to test soil
- Recognize different plant indicators and what they tell about soil health.
- Understand a multitude of different ways to remediate and build soil.
- Apply different composting techniques in appropriate situations.
- Identify key plants that bring nutrient to the soil.

### **Session 6: Trees**

Ecological function of trees in relation to earth, water, air and energy

Succession

Polycultures

Forest gardens and food forests

Plant and tree identification

Plants as soil indicators

Design for trees

Learning Goals:

- Understand the ecological functions of trees and recognize them as a keystone species in the ecosystem.
- Learn the stages of succession and how to intervene at appropriate times.
- Know the layers in a forest garden and different plants for each layer that grow locally
- Identify local plants and trees and see the difference in characteristics between species.
- Be able to integrate trees adequately and appropriately in design.

### **Session 7: Animals**

Design for wild and domestic animals

Animal care

Integrated pest management

Learning Goals:

- Recognize the intrinsic characteristics, functions and outputs of animals
- How to meet the needs of animals on site
- Learn techniques for integrating animal systems
- Understand effective and healthy ways to handle pests
- Know how to safely and ethically live with wildlife

## **Session 8: Water, Aquaculture & Earthworks**

Water facts

Water conservation

Water strategies & techniques

Waste water treatment

Water harvesting & storage

Earthworks

Aquaculture

Learning Goals:

- Understand how global water issues can affect us on a local level.
- Learn how to do a water audit.
- Recognize multiple ways in which to conserve water.
- Feel confident in applying strategies and techniques to capture, store, treat and release water safely and appropriately.
- Know how to calculate roof water catchment amounts.

## **Session 9: Climate**

Climatic Zones

Climatic factors

Microclimate

Design for Climate

Learning Goals:

- Understand climate on a global scale and how we may design to moderate climatic factors
- Be able to identify, create and design microclimates
- Learn how to understand climate and its elements (light, wind, water)

## **Session 10: Cool Climate**

Cool climate characteristics

Cool climate design challenges and strategies

Cool climate design elements and techniques

Learning Goals:

- Be able to identify characteristics of cool climate and appropriate strategies and technologies to work with them in the home, garden, farm and community

## **Session 11: Tropics**

Tropical climate characteristics

Tropical climate design challenges and strategies

Tropical climate design elements and techniques

Learning Goals:

- Be able to identify characteristics of wet, wet dry and monsoon tropics and appropriate strategies and technologies to work with them in the home, garden, farm and community

## **Session 12: Drylands**

Dryland climate characteristics

Dryland climate design challenges and strategies

Dryland climate design elements and techniques

Learning Goals:

- Be able to identify characteristics of drylands and appropriate strategies and technologies to work with them in the home, garden, farm and community.

### **Session 13: Social Permaculture**

Client interview & designer checklist

Community building (group processes and asset mapping)

Governance (sociocracy and consensus decision making)

Land access

Right livelihood

Legal structures

Bioregionalism

Learning Goals:

- Gain confidence in the consultation and design process for clients.
- Be able to map assets and resources and identify community needs.
- Understand different models of decision making and how to apply them.
- Learn tools to provide for healthy group dynamics and efficient process.
- Recognize opportunities for land access locally.
- Become aware of ethical and effective business models and legal structures that support local economy
- Know ways to relocalize and create resilient communities.

### **Session 14: OS Permaculture**

Resiliency

Permaculture economics

Urban renewal strategies and design

Learning Goals:

- Able to identify risks and mitigate disaster using Permaculture design tools and techniques
- Know the steps in building a emergency preparedness plan and engaging local community in the process
- Learn a variety of different economic strategies and the value of utilizing multiple currencies and tools
- Feel confident in utilizing place-making tools, techniques and Permaculture strategies in urban environments

### **Session 15: Graduation**

Next steps (setting up a permaculture practice, further education, community involvement, goal sharing)

Education (accessibility, open source, alternative education)

Mapping and design presentations

Talent show

Certificates

Learning Goals:

- Think about niches in permaculture and practice effective goal setting
- Gain experience presenting to groups and receiving feedback
- Understand how to help others share their gifts

## **Instructors' Bio:**

**Delvin Solkinson** is community gardener and plant poet dedicated to bringing creativity to the permaculture movement by creating free open source learning and teaching tools. He has completed a PDC, Diploma and Master's Degree with Bill Mollison and done advanced teacher trainings with Rosemary Morrow, Toby Hemenway, Larry Santoyo, Looby Macnamara, David Holmgren, Geoff Lawton, Patricia Michael, Robyn Francis, the Bullock Brothers, Tom Ward, Jude Hobbs, Scott Pittman, Michael Becker, Robin Wheeler, Starhawk, Robina McCurdy and Robin Clayfield. He is an accredited teacher through the Permaculture Research Institute (Australia), Permaculture Academy (UK) and a Field Mentor through the Permaculture Institute (USA). Recently he completed a PDC in Portland with Toby Hemenway, one in Greece with Rosemary Morrow and a second Diploma through the Permaculture Institute. Currently he is doing graduate work under the mentorship of Larry Santoyo and Looby Macnamara.

**Kym Chi** is a dedicated advocate of earth stewardship, people care and regenerative action for future resilience. Her main efforts are as a creative facilitator, artist, healer, medicine woman and community builder. To date; Kym has received 3 certificates in Permaculture Design, completed multiple teacher trainings, taken a variety of advanced trainings and completed a Diploma in Permaculture Education. With a love of learning, she continues to take courses that grow her understanding of the natural world. Through her stewardship of a deepened connection with the environment, Kym wishes to inspire creative self-expression and value centred living to enrich and create healthy and abundant habitats and communities. With a focus on Social Permaculture, Kym strives to mentor others on their life path and focusses on ways to support organizations and communities to become more resilient. She lives on the Sunshine Coast where she teaches and mentors in Permaculture and runs a holistic healing practice and has previously acted as the Food Systems Network Coordinator for the Lower Sunshine Coast through One Straw Society.