



# Permaculture Design Course

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## Course context and our approach

The schedule for this PDC is made up of four main class times of 1.5 hrs. with an optional evening session to extend the days learning or weave in elements from related but non curriculum based activities. These activities include skill- shares, World Café, film nights, presentations and knowledge pools and some practicums like preparing fermented foods, for example. **Integralpermanence** is committed to upholding the integrity and high standard of Permaculture Design training that is essential to effectively see this vital design science spread rapidly globally. Valuing the human element inherent to Permanent Culture, our courses extend the traditional PDC curriculum by integrating continual participatory community building and self- leadership development exercises which leave participants with tangible skills to support their continued work in their own communities after the course. We have also found this to be very effective to support the dynamic learning environment during the course.

Having observed the varying quality and caliber of trainings around Europe and the rest of the world it is part of our strategy to remain true to the originators' intended formats for our trainings, understanding the clarity behind this intention. As such our certification from the leading global institute, PRI, ensures you are getting a world class, up to date training from a field trained experienced educator who has been personally vetted and assessed. We are also certified by the PC Assoc. UK, which requires teachers to have practical and design training to a minimum standard. It is clearly enriching, (if not essential), for professional designers/ teachers to study and work regularly in all climatic zones, and our diverse experience in design/ education/ implementation around the world greatly informs our work and deeply benefits our students learning. The primary aspect of courses by **Integralpermanence** that make them effective is the commitment to returning the **DESIGN** to Permaculture Design Courses, through engaged participatory design exercises regularly throughout the course.

We dynamically weave lecture story- telling with hands on practicums and regular design exercises designed to leave students tooled up with the skills and techniques to leave the course fully prepared to apply PC design to all aspects of their lives. Applying the understanding to the surrounding environment as much as possible, and relating to case studies allowing students to synthesize the diverse material effectively. Our courses are designed to cater for Visual, Auditory and Kinesthetic learning preferences to enable rapid and effective synthesis of this vital study. The course schedule is actually a constantly evolving entity because we are always re-evaluating to leverage any opportunity to improve details of our curriculum or it's delivery; as Permaculturist's we apply design process to our work continuously. Part of our role is keeping up to date with the latest global developments in all aspects of Permaculture Design and Regenerative Agriculture. We also recognize the uniqueness of each site (due to factors such as culture, climate, and resources) and adjust the structure to leverage effectiveness in a given circumstance and integrate the shared experience of participants.

## Daily Schedule

Session Name	Time	Minutes
A	09:00 – 10:30	90
Break	10:30 – 11:00	30
B	11:00 – 12:30	90
Lunch	12:30 – 14:00	90
C	14:00 – 15:30	90
Break	15:30 – 16:00	30
D	16:00 – 17:30	90
E	Optional Evening Session	





## Outline Schedule

Please note to receive an Internationally Accredited PDC certificate you are required to fully participate in the course

Day 1 Planting the Permaculture seed	Example Evening/ Additional/Practicum/ Design information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orientation + Tour of Site</li> <li>• Class Introductions, Schedule Overview</li> <li>• Intro "buddy" session</li> <li>• Definitions of Permaculture</li> <li>• Brief History of Permaculture</li> <li>• Where are we at today?</li> <li>• Permaculture in landscape/ society/ community context</li> <li>• The evidence of why we need to act, key global challenges</li> <li>• Understanding Exponential Function</li> <li>• Evidence for PC</li> <li>• History of Agriculture in last 10,000yrs&gt; Social consequences</li> <li>• Philosophy and concepts</li> <li>• Ethics Interactive&gt; "Anthrographs"</li> <li>• Principles of Permaculture</li> </ul>	<p>Neural Ecology (Edward De Bono)            Understanding patterned individual thinking and tools for collaborating</p> <p><b>Evening Activity</b>            Fermented food/ beverages Practicum            Food Preservation &amp; Nutrition Presentation</p>
<p><b>Day 2 Design Process and Methodology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design Process Intro</li> <li>• Design Process Intro</li> <li>• Underlying principles and natural laws</li> <li>• Tradition, culture anthropology perspective of learning/ governance</li> <li>• Design/ strategy &amp; Techniques</li> <li>• Keyline Scale of Permanence</li> <li>• Methods of Design</li> <li>• Articulate Goals</li> <li>• Analysis and Assessment</li> <li>• Design Phase: Methods of Design</li> <li>• Implement</li> <li>• Evaluate</li> <li>• ACRONYM's</li> <li>• Slope, Key Points, orientation, aspect, data overlay</li> <li>• <b>Zones and their placement</b></li> <li>• <b>How it relates with Sector Planning</b></li> <li>• Designing in zones 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5</li> <li>• Random assembly</li> <li>• Effective collaboration</li> <li>• Incremental design</li> <li>• Functional Interconnections and Leverage in design</li> <li>• Succession on the land and of projects</li> <li>• Mapping, GIS systems, Advanced Design</li> </ul>	<p><b>Practicum, making 18 day compost</b></p> <p><b>Trust Building activity &amp; reflection</b></p> <p><b>Evening Activity</b>            Film night</p>
<p><b>Day 3 Pattern Understanding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Observation walk</b></li> <li>• Slideshow global patterns</li> <li>• Extrapolate key forms and identify function</li> <li>• The Scale of Permanence as an effective organizing pattern for Permaculture Design</li> <li>• Core model pattern</li> <li>• Modern patterns &amp; images in culture</li> <li>• Universal patterns micro to macro, emptiness and form</li> <li>• Powers of Ten, the pattern of the universe</li> <li>• Extending and optimizing edges</li> <li>• Boundary conditions</li> <li>• Compatibility/ Tessellation/ Communication</li> <li>• Traditional use of patterns globally</li> </ul>	<p><b>Quick Group Design, Redesigning the space with a Pattern Language</b></p> <p><b>Evening Activity</b>            Social space</p>



- Pattern Understanding
- Pattern Languages
- Whole System integrated design

**Day 4 Water**

- Group Check In
- Introduction
- Properties/ chemistry of water
- pH
- The water cycle. Regional + global concerns
- Rain water harvesting
- Anti Evaporation Strategies
- Biological water cleaning systems
- WET systems
- Water harvesting & water reduction in sewage systems
- Drinking water solutions
- Tree bogs
- Water reduction in sewage systems
- **Understanding water in landscapes> sandpit**
- Water Storage Placement
- Climatic Variances
- Mulch Systems

**Day 5 Earthworks and Aquaculture**

- **Geography & Geometry of Keyline**
- **Topography & Cartography**
- Catchment/Watershed Analysis
- Priority of Water in Master Planning
- GIS/CAD Design
- Low-Med-High Tech Survey
- Land Capability/Component Analysis
- Erosion Restoration
- Irrigation and gravity designs
- Earthworks>
- Constructing dams, swales, banks, terraces, roads and drains
- Appropriate Machine Selection
- Understanding aquatic systems
- Aquaculture
- Climatic Variances
- Chinampas

**Day 6 Soils, Garden to Farm**

- **Soil Web Roleplay>**
- How to act in garden context
- Various Mulch systems
- Bare soil = public enemy no. 1
- Climatic Variances
- Traditional methods observation walk>
- Plant indicators
- Seed Saving
- Bioregional Strategies
- Structure & Composition
- Soils direct link to health
- Decay/Fertility
- Soil pores and crumb structure importance.
- **N Fixers/ Dynamic Accumulators**
- pH
- Carbon
- 18 day Compost and Vermicompost
- **Actively Aerated Compost Tea**
- **BioFertiliser**
- Terra Pretta
- Jean Pain

**Contour Practicum**

**Water layer group design**

**Evening Activity**

Integral Theory and Spiral Dynamics Presentation

**Water layer group design**

**Evening Activity**

Skillshare

**Practicum, eg, Making Bio Fertilisers Mulch systems/ types, Biochar**

**Evening Activity**

Slideshow/ Film



- Keyline
- Non- Inversion ripping
- Biological Monitoring
- Holistic Management Grazing Planning
- Biomimicry
- Pasture Cropping

**Day 7 Trees and their functions/ uses**

- Trees and their Energy Transactions
- Soil biology/ complexity pasture/horti/food forest/ forest
- Understanding trees>
- Forest & Functions
- Climatic Variances
- Trees in a wider landscape/ cycle context
- Root, mineral and rain interactions.
- Implications for design, Windbreaks
- Various types of forest.
- Establishing trees
- Ground Prep
- Establishing a nursery seed collection and in ground plant stock
- Fruit trees from seed
- Nursery Considerations
- Sustainable Forestry & Coppice
- Forest Gardening
- Guilds and stacking
- Mycology & Mushroom production
- Inoculants
- Agroforestry

**Day 8 Climate, Microclimate and Building Design**

- Global weather patterns
- Precipitation, radiation and wind
- **Microclimate features and leveraging in design**
- **Group Observation/ Species assembly Design Exercise onsite or on maps of own properties**
- Humid Vs Brittle landscapes, how it effects design
- Implications for Climate Change,
- Micro/Local/ Regional Climate Implications
- Latitude and altitude
- Major landscape features/design components/ cropping strategies/ Energy considerations/
- Natural building slideshow
- Materials/ Techniques
- Animal considerations/building requirements with regard to>
  - Temperate strategies
  - Cold Temperate strategies
  - Arid Strategies
  - Sub-tropics/ Tropics strategies

**Day 9 Urban Permaculture and Money**

- Urban slideshow
- Food in the city
- Bio- intensive food production
- **Biological pest control>**
- Recap soil health, Mulch, Preparations, Interventions, Last resorts
- CSA's
- Allotments/ Community gardens
- Schools for the future
- Understanding money, energy flows
- Finances
- Getting over "green" money blocks

**Short group design exercise or Teacher demonstration of design approach with participant's site/ data projected**

**Decision Making exercise & reflection**

**Evening Activity**  
 Film night/ World café

**Practicum, site dependent, eg, clay oven, plastering, natural paints**

**Evening Activity**  
 Natural Building slideshows

**Creating value in our community, gift economy circle**

**Short group design, eg, small enterprise/ social enterprise/ urban garden design**

**Evening Activity**  
 Appropriate Tech slideshow eg, Jean Pain systems/Methane, PV Solar, Hydro, Solar Thermal, Wind, Biomass,



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- Right Livelihood
- Different forms of capital
- Social Enterprises, case study
- Intercepting waste streams, case study
- Crowd Sourcing, case studies
- LETS
- Transition Towns

**Day 10 Tropics/ Sub Tropics**

- Climate types, tropical soils and
- Earthshaping for soil/ water conservation
- House design and zone 1 planning
- Integrated land management
- Elements of a village complex in the tropics.
- Evolving a polyculture, themes on a palm dominant polyculture.
- Pioneering, animal tractor systems and grassland and rangeland management.
- Humid tropical coast stabilization and shelterbelts.
- Case Studies & References.

**Temperate Strategies**

- Characteristics of a humid cool climate, soils, landform and water conservation.
- Settlement and house design, the home garden, berry fruits, glasshouse growing.
- Orchards, farm forestry, free range forage systems, the lawn.
- Grasslands, rangelands, cold climates, wildfire.
- Designers check list.
- Case Studies & References.

**Day 11 Animals in Permaculture**

- Recap on 10,000yrs of farming
- Right animals for the job
- Regenerative Agriculture
- Allowing animals to express their "animalness"
- Input/ Output analysis
- Bees
- Poultry
- Pigs
- Cattle
- Case studies, regenerative agriculture eg, Polyface and Krematahoff
- Polymarketing
- Legalities
- Integrative systems, pulling it all together connecting all the dots

**Day 12 Invisible Structures**

- Bioregionalism
- Eco villages
- Community
- Governance & Decision-making
- Legal considerations
- Land Access
- Project Costing & Scheduling
- Due Diligence
- Holistic Management Decision/ Economic planning

GeoThermal, Rocket Stoves, Steam, System Integration

**Possible Mulch/ Planting/ Maintenance/ Alt. Tech practicum dependent on course specifics**

**Major group design exercise begins> Flow chart to recap process, standard expected**

**Major group design exercise time**

**Evening Activity**  
 Film night/ World Cafe

**Leadership exercise & reflection on leadership models**

**Major group design exercise time**

**Evening Activity**  
 Social evening, eg, Pizza Party



**Day 13 Harvesting what we've sown...**

- **Major group design wrap up**
- **Propagation and Grafting Practicum**
- Pollination and Seed Saving
- Energiser activities
- Presentations and feedback
- Tidy up, photographs with all design work, discuss development over course

**Day 14 Moving on...**

- What's next?
- Diploma/ GU
- The wider networks
- Careers in Permaculture
- Resources
- Feedback
- Group Photos
- Email lists/ Contact groups

**Major group design final wrap up session**

Evening Activity

*The great, the only, (NO) TALENT SHOW!  
Sustainable participatory fun and  
celebration of all that has been achieved  
and all that we will do from here...*

**Certificate ceremony**

- Lunch
- Departures