



Wildlife Forensic Academy

Course Brochure

2-WEEK COURSE:

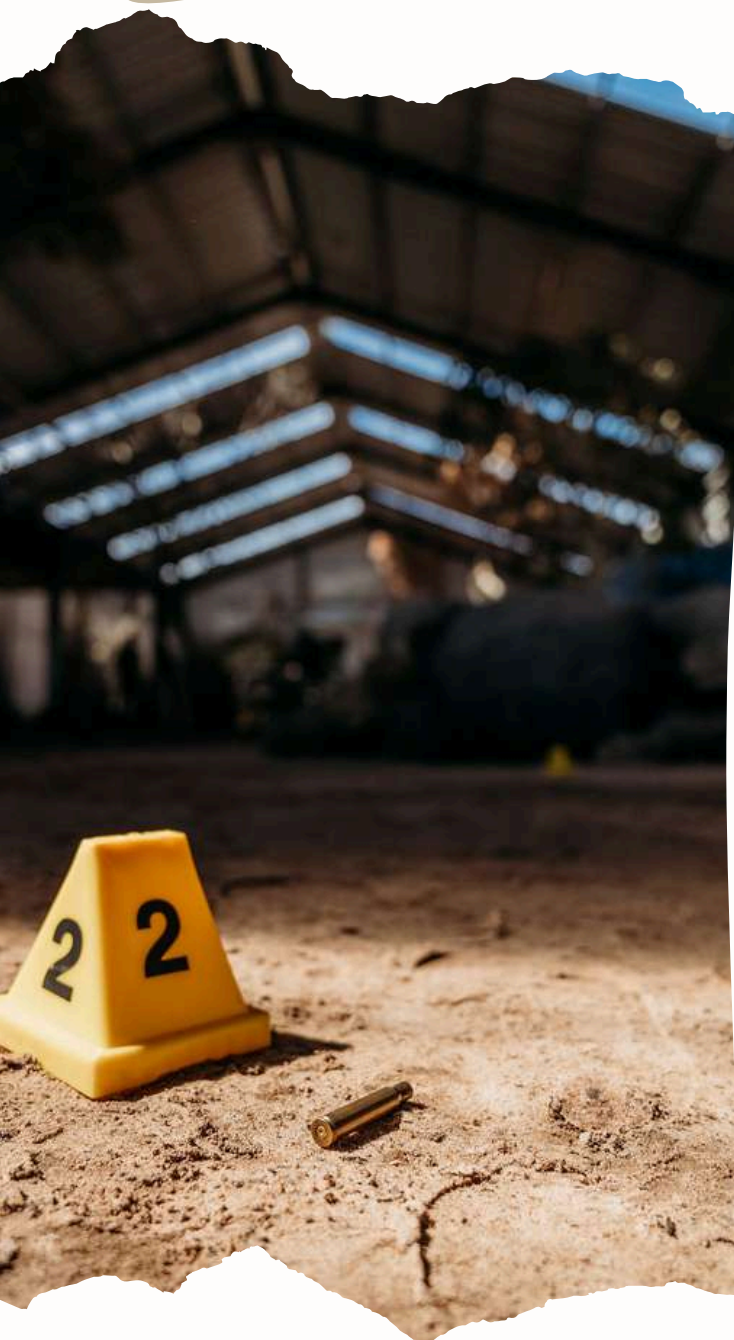
WILDLIFE FORENSICS, CRIME
SCENE MANAGEMENT AND
ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE





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THE PROBLEM: WILDLIFE CRIME AND ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE (IWT)



Wildlife crime encompasses the illicit killing and extraction of wildlife, frequently associated with illegal wildlife trade—the unauthorized selling of animals.

Ranking as the fourth largest criminal activity globally, it holds an estimated annual value exceeding 30 billion USD. Despite this, wildlife crimes are often perceived as less significant than conventional crimes, as the animals involved are not conventionally recognized as "victims," diminishing the perceived gravity of these offenses. The absence of eyewitnesses complicates the apprehension and prosecution of poachers.



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THE SOLUTION USING FORENSICS TO COMBAT WILDLIFE CRIME

Forensic sciences play a crucial role in investigating scenes, gathering evidence for prosecution, and bolstering legal cases for law enforcement. Elevating forensic training and knowledge directly enhances criminal conviction rates, serving as a deterrent for potential offenders, such as poachers, who are less likely to engage in illegal activities when faced with a higher likelihood of apprehension.





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ABOUT US: THE WILDLIFE FORENSIC ACADEMY



Located in the Buffelsfontein Game and Nature Reserve, just an hour from Cape Town, our academy is a vital training hub for wildlife crime fighters, including rangers, veterinarians, and law enforcement officials.

We also offer specialized training for university students in fields like conservation, forensics, biology, and veterinary sciences. Our state-of-the-art facilities include an Experience Lab with mock crime scenes, a moot court room, and advanced camera systems for real-time scene analysis.

For more information and to sign up for the course, visit our website.





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ABOUT: WHY SHOULD YOU TAKE THIS COURSE

This two-week Wildlife Forensics course is specifically designed for international students and wildlife professionals outside of Africa, offering a unique blend of expert training and immersive educational tourism in the captivating surroundings of greater Cape Town. The program provides a solid foundation in Wildlife Forensics, emphasizing knowledge-building and practical skills in wildlife crime investigation. Students will gain a deep understanding of wildlife forensics, wildlife crime, and the illegal wildlife trade, while developing confidence in conducting investigations using forensic techniques such as trace collection, documentation, and courtroom evidence presentation.





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ABOUT: WHY SHOULD YOU TAKE THIS COURSE

This course offers an unparalleled learning experience in Africa, where participants will witness South Africa's diverse wildlife and engage with the various issues and stakeholders in the field. You will explore real-life wildlife crime cases and gain hands-on experience in evidence recovery, crime scene documentation, and forensic analysis, all through the lens of South Africa's unique challenges. Practical sessions will take place at the Buffelsfontein Nature Reserve, where you will use state-of-the-art facilities to simulate crime scene investigations. Additionally, you will learn about related disciplines, including forensic veterinary pathology and injured animal management. The course also includes a variety of educational excursions that will expose you to the conservation initiatives across South Africa while enriching your understanding of the country's culture and wildlife conservation efforts. This program promises a comprehensive and immersive learning experience, equipping you with the skills and knowledge necessary for a successful career in wildlife forensics.





COURSE SCHEDULE: WHAT TO EXPECT

*Course schedule subject to change

Day	When	What	Time
1	Sunday	Collect students	09:00
1	Sunday	Welcome talk and facility tour	10:00
1	Sunday	Lecture: Introduction to wildlife crime scene management	10:30
1	Sunday	Practical: Defining, securing and protecting a wildlife crime scene	11:15
1	Sunday	Lunch	13:00
1	Sunday	Lecture: Reconstruction, investigation and processing of a wildlife crime scene	14:00
1	Sunday	Practical: Surveying and searching at a wildlife crime scene	15:00
1	Sunday	Lecture: Crime scene photography at a wildlife crime scene	16:00
1	Sunday	Dinner	18:30
2	Monday	Breakfast	08:20
2	Monday	Practical: Crime scene photography at a wildlife crime scene	09:00
2	Monday	Lecture: Sketching at a wildlife crime scene	10:00
2	Monday	Practical: Sketching at a wildlife crime scene	11:00
2	Monday	Lunch	12:30
2	Monday	Lecture: Collection and chain of evidence at a wildlife crime scene	13:30
2	Monday	Practical: Collection of evidence at a wildlife crime scene	14:45
2	Monday	Practical: Collection of evidence and labwork	16:00
2	Monday	Dinner	18:30



COURSE SCHEDULE: WHAT TO EXPECT

*Course schedule subject to change

Day	When	What	Time
3	Tuesday	Breakfast	08:20
3	Tuesday	Lecture: Drafting of Statements	09:00
3	Tuesday	Lecture: Testifying in court	10:45
3	Tuesday	Practical: Wildlife crime scene	11:15
3	Tuesday	Practical: Statements and preparation for court	11:45
3	Tuesday	Practical: Moot court	12:15
3	Tuesday	Lunch	13:00
3	Tuesday	Practical: Moot court	14:00
3	Tuesday	Practical: Vehicle search	15:00
3	Tuesday	Dinner	18:00
4	Wednesday	Breakfast	08:20
4	Wednesday	Practical: Crime scene documentation, practical search techniques, presumptive testing, preparation of photographic albums, preparation for court	09:00
4	Wednesday	Lunch	12:00
4	Wednesday	Practical: Wildlife crime scene	13:00
4	Wednesday	Beach walk	17:00
4	Wednesday	Dinner	18:30



COURSE SCHEDULE: WHAT TO EXPECT

Day	When	What	Time
5	Thursday	Breakfast	08:20
5	Thursday	Practical: Wildlife crime scene	09:00
5	Thursday	Lunch	12:00
5	Thursday	Drafting of statements and albums, preparation for court	13:00
5	Thursday	Dinner	18:30
6	Friday	Breakfast	08:20
6	Friday	Practical: Moot court session	09:00
6	Friday	Lunch	12:30
6	Friday	Practical: Moot court session	13:30
6	Friday	Feedback on statements and testimony	15:30
6	Friday	Travel to West Coast	16:00
6	Friday	Orientation and Khoi San paintings	17:00
6	Friday	Dinner	19:30
6	Friday	Stargazing	20:30



COURSE SCHEDULE: WHAT TO EXPECT

Day	When	What	Time
7	Saturday	Breakfast	08:00
7	Saturday	Practical: Succulent plant search and the plant poaching trade	09:00
7	Saturday	Lunch	12:00
7	Saturday	Lecture: Poaching, anti-poaching, tracking, environmental threats	13:00
7	Saturday	Practical: Eye sharpening, tracking, knots, short term survival	14:00
7	Saturday	Sundowner	17:00
7	Saturday	Dinner	19:00
8	Sunday	Breakfast	08:00
8	Sunday	Practical: Tracking	09:00
8	Sunday	Lunch	13:00
8	Sunday	Travel back to Buffelsfontein	14:30
8	Sunday	Leisure time	15:30
8	Sunday	Dinner	18:30
8	Sunday	Possible lecture with stars - navigation	19:30



COURSE SCHEDULE: WHAT TO EXPECT

Day	When	What	Time
9	Monday	Breakfast	08:20
9	Monday	Lecture and practical: Environmental threats and short-term survival	09:00
9	Monday	Lunch	12:30
9	Monday	Lecture and practical: Forensic entomology	13:30
9	Monday	Dinner	18:30
10	Tuesday	Breakfast	08:20
10	Tuesday	Lecture: Veterinary aspects regarding wildlife, poison, first aid	09:00
10	Tuesday	Lunch	12:30
10	Tuesday	Practical: Wildlife post-mortem	13:30
10	Tuesday	Dinner	18:30
11	Wednesday	Breakfast	08:20
11	Wednesday	Excursion: Cultural tour	09:00
11	Wednesday	Excursion: Marine bird rehabilitation centre	11:00
11	Wednesday	Lunch	12:30
11	Wednesday	Excursion: Cheetah conservation centre	15:00
11	Wednesday	Dinner	18:30



COURSE SCHEDULE: WHAT TO EXPECT

Day	When	What	Time
12	Thursday	Breakfast	08:00
12	Thursday	Excursion: Kirstenbosch national botanical garden	10:00
12	Thursday	Lunch	12:00
12	Thursday	Lecture: Marine conservation	14:00
12	Thursday	Excursion: Surfing	15:30
12	Thursday	Dinner	18:30
13	Friday	Breakfast	07:30
13	Friday	Excursion: Natural history museum	09:30
13	Friday	Lunch	12:30
13	Friday	Excursion: Marine wildlife centre	13:30
13	Friday	Dinner	18:30
14	Saturday	Breakfast	08:00
14	Saturday	Excursion: Guided hike on ecology, marine poaching and biodiversity	10:00
14	Saturday	Lunch	13:00
14	Saturday	Scenic drive and airport drop off	TBC

QUESTIONS?

Kindly direct any questions and enquiries via email to admin@wildlifeforensicacademy.com

APPLICATIONS:

Please express your interest in joining us for this unique course experience by filling out an application form on our website:

