

# Botanic Gardens from A to Z

(526089; 2 – 4 credit points)

March 10 - May 14 2009,  
Tue + Thu 8 – 10, Kaisaniemi

[www.fmnh.helsinki.fi/opetus](http://www.fmnh.helsinki.fi/opetus)



Leif Schulman, PhD, Director  
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## General aims:

- To give a good overview of the work and role of botanic gardens so as to:
  - build a foundation for a possible future employment in BGs
  - give the students an understanding on how to make use of BG collections and services in their future studies, research, teaching and other work
  - contribute towards a general appreciation of the work BGs do



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## Specific aims:

- After completion of the course, students should be able to answer the following questions:
  - What is a botanic garden?
  - Which are the core fields of activity of BGs?
  - What constitutes an accession, i.e., the basic unit of a BG collection?
  - For which fields of research are BG collections particularly valuable?
  - Which are the specific benefits of BG collections in teaching and education of various target groups?
  - In which ways can and do BGs play a particular role in conservation?



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## Teachers

- Leif Schulman ([leif.schulman@helsinki.fi](mailto:leif.schulman@helsinki.fi))
  - responsible teacher
  - PhD in biodiversity science, Director of BG
  - national representative in European Consortium of BGs
- Julia Willison ([julia.willison@bgci.org](mailto:julia.willison@bgci.org))
  - guest lecturer (two times)
  - Head of Education of Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI)



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## ...teachers

- Mari Miranto ([mari.miranto@helsinki.fi](mailto:mari.miranto@helsinki.fi))
  - guest lecturer (one time)
  - MSc in botany
  - specialist on ex situ conservation and seed banks
- Susanna Lehvavirta ([susanna.lehvavirta@helsinki.fi](mailto:susanna.lehvavirta@helsinki.fi))
  - guest lecturer (one time)
  - PhD in ecology
  - Project Manager of Kumpula opening project



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## Course Programme

1. Tue March 10: *Course introduction*
2. Thu March 12: *Setting the scene - what is a botanic garden?*
3. **Tue March 17 – no lectures**
4. Thu March 19: *Collection curation*
5. Tue March 24: *Curation DEMO (hopefully)*
6. **Thu March 26 – no lectures**



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...programme

7. Tue March 31: *Public outreach and education in BGs* – **Julia Willison**
8. Thu April 2: *Public outreach and education in BGs* – **Julia Willison**
9. Tue April 7: *Teaching in BGs*
10. Thu April 9 – *no lectures*
11. Tue April 14: *Research in BGs*
12. Thu April 16: *Conservation work in BGs*
13. Tue April 21: *Conservation work in BGs (seed-banking)* – **Mari Miranto**



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...programme

14. Thu April 23 – *no lectures*
15. Tue April 28: *Case history: Kumpula opening project* – **Susanna Lehvävirta**
16. Thu April 30 – *no lectures*
17. Tue May 5: *National and international cooperation*
18. Thu May 7: *Training for EuroGard?*
19. Tue May 12: *Training for EuroGard?*
20. Thu May 14: *Exam*



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Literature (to be provided)

- Leadlay, E. & Greene, J. (eds.) 1998. **The Darwin Technical Manual for Botanic Gardens**. BGCI, London.
- Cheney, J., Navarrete Navarro, J. & Wyse Jackson, P. (eds.) 2000. **Action Plan for Botanic Gardens in the European Union**. National Botanic Garden of Belgium, Meise. (*Scripta Botanica Belgica* 19)
- Wyse Jackson, P.S. & Sutherland, L.A. 2000. **International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation**. BGCI, London.
- Anonymous 2002. **Global strategy for plant conservation**. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montreal.
- Planta Europa 2008. **A Sustainable Future for Europe; the European Strategy for Plant Conservation 2008–2014**. Plantlife International, Salisbury, and the Council of Europe, Strasbourg
- etc.



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### Credits, evaluation etc.

- Fulfilment of course requirements, 2 credit points:
  - active participation in lectures
  - completion of home assignments
  - exam (includes lectures plus complementary reading)
  - graded 0-5
- Extension of credits, 1-2 extra points:
  - help at the congress plus follow lectures: 1 point
  - written (+annotated) summary of 3-5 presentations: 1 additional point



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