



Permaculture Demonstrator Skill Set (AHCSS000048)

Course Information

“Permaculture is a multi-disciplinary ecological design science focused on care for the earth, care for people and all species, sharing of surpluses and setting limits to industrial and exploitative growth. It is based on the premise that the planet is a finite ecological system with limited energy and material resources to be shared and managed in a manner inspired by nature.” *Skills Impact, AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Companion Volume.*

This nationally recognized Skill Set is from the AHC Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management Training Package. Completing this Skill Set with CERES provides students with the vocational knowledge and skills in permaculture to provide practical instruction to small groups of learners for school, labour market or community programs.

The course covers core elements of design and maintenance of a Permaculture garden as well as the skills and knowledge to communicate and demonstrate permaculture principles and practices.

Students at CERES learn on our 4.5 hectare urban farm in East Brunswick alongside our range of social enterprises including our Honey Lane Organic Market Garden, Propagation Area, Permaculture and Bushfood Nursery.

Venue

The CERES Community Environment Park located at CERES Community Environment Park, corner of Roberts & Stewards Streets, East Brunswick.

Course Design

Four units from the Certificate III Permaculture must be completed to gain this Skill Set.

CERES' course offers a combination of face-to-face (36 hours) and facilitated on-line learning (24 hours) with a maximum of 20 places per class available in this program. Sessions include a range of activities and methodologies including:

- Practical demonstration and hands on learning in the field
- Class Discussion and use of a range of on-line materials
- Individual and group work

In addition to face to face and facilitated on-line time the course requires up to 100 additional hours of independent learning.

Dates/Times

On-line sessions Wednesday evenings 6.30 - 9pm and Saturday mornings 9.30am – 1pm

Session 1: Weds 11th November (2.5 hrs)

Session 2: Sat 14th November (3.5 hrs)

Session 3: Weds 18th November (2.5 hrs)

Session 4: Sat 21st November (3.5 hrs)

Session 5: Weds 25th November (2.5 hrs)

Session 6: Sat 28th November (3.5 hrs)

Session 7: Weds 2nd December (2.5 hrs)

Session 8: Sat 5th December (3.5 hrs)

Face to face Weekend Practical Activities and Assessments 10am – 4pm

Session 9: Sat 12th December (6 hrs)

Session 10: Sun 13th December (6 hrs)

Session 11: Sat 16th January (6 hrs)

Session 12: Sun 17th January (6 hrs)

Session 13: Sat 23rd January (6 hrs)

Session 14: Sun 24th January (6 hrs)

Content

Below are the units from the Certificate III Permaculture which form the Skill Set:

Unit Code	Unit Name	Core/Elective
AHCPER301	Research and communicate information on permaculture principles and practices	C
AHCPER303	Maintain integrated plant and animal systems	C
AHCPER316	Select plant and animal species in a permaculture system	C
AHCPER 321	Demonstrate permaculture practices to small groups of learners	E

Student Resources

For on-line/digital components students will need:

- Access to a computer or mobile device that has a web browser and reliable internet
- A PDF reader such as the free Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Ability to take photos
- Equipment and software to record and edit videos

For on-site practical components students need:

- Practical clothing for working outdoors with sturdy footwear
- Gardening gloves
- Hi vis vest
- Hat, water bottle

For off-site practical components students will need:

- Access to a site/space in which to design, establish and maintain a permaculture system
- Appropriate tools and resources for the establishment and maintenance of a permaculture system
- Access to a small group of learners to deliver presentations and demonstrate permaculture practices to
- Access to a permaculture site to analyse

Assessment

Assessment will be conducted in line with the Training Package's requirements and will be through a range of practical demonstrations and some written assignments.

All students will receive a Statement of Attainment for successful completion of units. Students who successfully complete all units will be issued with a Statement of Attainment which states "These competencies meet the industry requirements for those providing practical instruction to small groups of learners".

Course Pre-requisites

Whilst there are no formal pre-requisites, prospective students should have:

- language, literacy and numeracy skills at a sufficient level to participate
- digital skills at a sufficient level to participate including the ability to
 - download, input, save and upload editable PDF documents
 - take and upload photos
 - film and edit videos
- A commitment to attending all classes and undertaking all course requirements.
- An interest in permaculture and some basic knowledge and experience of horticulture/gardening.

Employment and Further Study Pathways

On successful completion graduates can gain employment as a Permaculture Demonstrator/Trainer/Facilitator in non-accredited labour market or community programs. Combined with a Cert IV TAE and Permaculture industry experience graduates may also deliver accredited Certificate I and II level school, labour market or community programs.

Graduates may also elect to undertake further training such as the full Certificate III Permaculture (all Skill Set units can be credited to this), a Permaculture Design Course or a Certificate IV Permaculture (two Skill Set units can be credited towards this).

Course Fees

Course fees are as detailed below.

	Tuition	Materials	Total
Full Fee	\$1,495	\$100	\$1,595
Concession Fee (holders of Centrelink Concession Cards)	\$1,195	\$100	\$1,295

Applicants offered a place will be required to pay a \$1,000 deposit at least 7 days prior to course commencement. The balance of fees will be required at the end of the second week. CERES Fees and Refund Policy can be found on our website.

Application/Enrolment Process

Those wishing to apply are asked to contact Karen Mengell, VET Co-ordinator on 9389 0127 or via email at karen.mengell@ceres.org.au for further information and discussion of individual needs prior to enrolment. CERES welcomes applications from those with disabilities.

Registered Training Organisation

CERES is the registered training organisation offering this training - RTO no 3686. CERES is registered as an RTO with the VRQA and as such is only able to enrol domestic students in Victoria.