



Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza · 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028 · Pretoria, Gauteng · South Africa

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COURSE BROCHURE

Holistic Species Profiling and Identification

Agriculture and Nature Conservation / Nature Conservation

Unit Standard 261586 · NQF Level 4 · 5 Credits · 2 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course equips learners with the skills to profile species holistically, integrating ecological, behavioral, and morphological characteristics to identify species accurately. Participants will learn to apply systematic observation techniques and interpret data to support biodiversity management and conservation efforts.

Category	Agriculture and Nature Conservation
Subfield	Nature Conservation
Unit Standard	261586
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 4 · 5 Credits
Duration	2 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Apply systematic observation methods to record species characteristics in field settings.
- Analyze morphological, behavioral, and ecological traits to differentiate between similar species.
- Evaluate the holistic requirements of species, including habitat, diet, and reproductive needs.
- Implement species identification protocols using taxonomic keys and reference materials.
- Demonstrate the ability to compile a species profile report for biodiversity assessment.
- Integrate indigenous knowledge systems into species profiling where applicable.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- This course is designed for environmental officers, conservationists, ecologists, and natural resource managers who need to identify and document species in their work.
- It is also suitable for field guides and students in environmental sciences.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Foundational Principles of Species Identification

- Introduction to taxonomy and systematics
- Morphological features: external anatomy, colour patterns, size
- Dichotomous keys: construction and use
- Field guides and reference collections
- Ecological niches and habitat preferences
- Behavioural indicators: calls, tracks, feeding signs
- Common pitfalls in identification: variation and mimics
- Ethical considerations in species handling

Day 2: Advanced Profiling and Practical Application

- Molecular techniques: DNA barcoding and genetic markers
- Statistical morphometrics and multivariate analysis
- Survey design: transects, quadrats, and capture methods
- Specimen preservation and curation
- Data recording: photography, GPS, field notes
- Environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling
- Case studies: cryptic species and invasive species
- Report writing and data interpretation

ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Delegates are assessed through exercises and a final test. A mark of **50% or above** earns an **AATICD Certificate of Completion**, issued digitally with a unique verification code. This course carries **5 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 4**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 15,400.00	R 15,400.00
1	In-House	R 20,000.00	R 20,000.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 23,100.00	R 23,100.00

UPCOMING SESSIONS

No sessions are currently scheduled. Please contact us to arrange a session at a time and location that suits your team.

HOW TO GET A QUOTE OR APPLY

1. **Get an instant quotation online:** visit www.aaticd.co.za, open the page for this course (Unit Standard 261586) and click **Get A Quote / Apply**. Select your training method and number of delegates – your quotation is generated immediately and emailed to you with the course brochure attached.
2. **Apply by email:** send the course title, your preferred training method (Online, In-House or On-Campus Pretoria), the number of delegates and your preferred dates to apply@aaticd.co.za – our team will reply with a formal quotation.
3. **Apply by phone or WhatsApp:** call +27 12 004 8389 or WhatsApp +27 65 077 6310 and we will prepare your quotation and reserve your seats.
4. **Confirm your booking:** accept the quotation and settle the invoice. As soon as payment is confirmed your delegates are enrolled and receive their AATICD LMS login details by email, along with joining instructions for their chosen training method.

Group discounts apply automatically – the more delegates you enrol, the lower the price per delegate. No payment is required to request a quotation.

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