

Where are we?



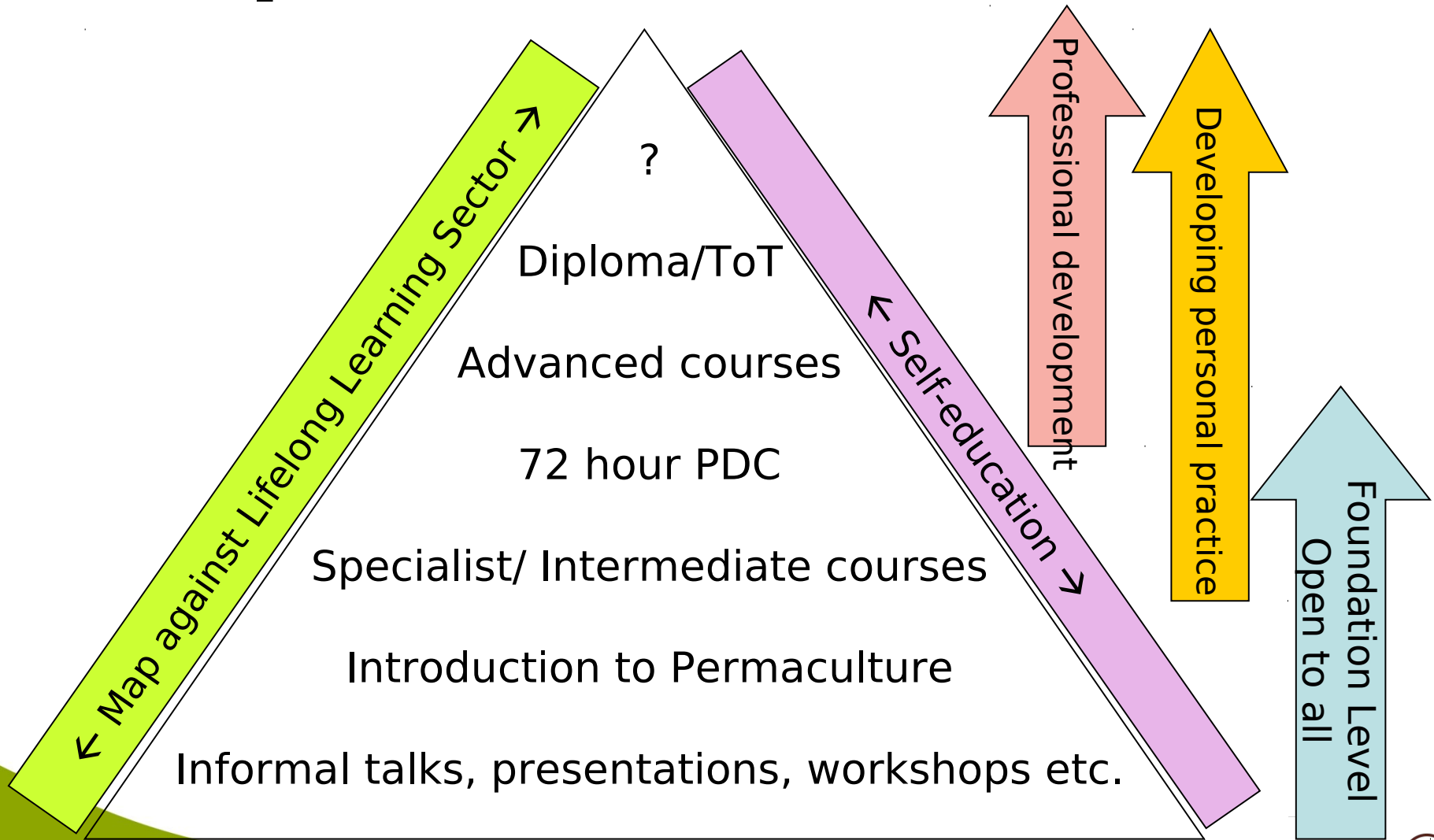
General Agreements

- Commercial use of the term “permaculture” comes with 72-hour Permaculture Design Course (PDC) certificate
- Development of Permaculture education vested in diploma holders and the *College of Graduates*
- Diploma process at least 2 years after PDC

Current reality

- Diversity of courses & diploma systems
- Design Courses are adapted to suit local needs and conditions
- No copyright or trademark for the term “permaculture” exists
- Only moral rights & responsibilities

“Trophic levels”



PDC

- International curriculum; developed by Pc Institute (Australia)
- Based on Designers Manual
- Originally 3 weeks
- Intended for itinerant teachers and consultants; “missionaries”
- Not designed as general-purpose course for individuals with their own gardens/land/projects
- In practice used for different purposes

Association Recommendations

- See Permaculture Teachers' Guide – review is needed
- Permaculture Teachers take on Diploma Pathway
- Diploma holders can lead courses
- Apprentice teachers work with diploma holders
- PDC Certificate award criteria:
 - 70% attendance
 - Participation in design exercise & presentation

Association Outcomes

1. Individuals and groups have better access to advice, support, information and training about the theory and practice of permaculture and related subjects
2. Individuals, projects and partners are better able to share resources and practical solutions, and collaborate on projects.
3. Civil society, specific sectors and professions understand the value of the permaculture design approach in relation to their activities

Quality Assurance

- Essential for PDC & Diploma
- Diploma QA: remit of IDDT
- PDC QA: no current authority
 - Association is default arbiter of complaints
- PDC accreditation:
 - Currently available via Open College Network
 - 4 units x 3 credits at level 3

Market Context

- Demand growth
- New PDC providers in 'market'
- Demand for accredited courses
- Learner feedback mainly positive
- Legislation (e.g. PTLLS)
- International standards/discourse
- Teachers' meeting 2008
- LAND project: funding & targets


Market Context

Permaculture Courses					
Year	Intro courses	PDC	Specialist courses & events	Total	PDC Graduates
2006 – 07	29	31	100	160	315
2007 – 08	60	34	139	233	340
2008 – 09	59	24	154	237	402

Market Context

learning curve
introduction to permaculture

home
back to environmental courses
main course list
FAQ
contact us
terms & conditions



learning curve
www.learningcurve-uk.com

1his home study course provides a comprehensive introduction to permaculture, allowing students to apply the principles in every aspect of their own lives.


Permaculture might best be defined as a way of life and its methods can be applied in the house and garden, as well as in the wider community and on the farm. Permaculture is about providing practical solutions that allow us to create a more enduring and harmonious way of living. Our course shows you how to consciously design a lifestyle that is low in environmental impact but at the same time highly productive. It shows you how to both meet your needs and make the most of resources by minimising waste and maximising potential. The course book is a classic text in this subject, *The Permaculture Way*.

Subjects covered include: the basic principles of permaculture; the environment and ecosystems; soil management; fertilisers, nitrogen, cultivation; gas and nutrient cycles; climate and water; climate change and energy alternatives; forest and woodland systems; permaculture in the home and garden; creating a greener lifestyle.

Students have up to three years to complete this course, allowing them to work through the modules at their own pace. On average, however, it takes students around 6 - 8 months to complete the course, based on 2 - 3 hours study time per week.

why choose us?

Our tutorial support is second-to-none! You'll be assigned a personal tutor as soon as you enrol who will work with you all the way through. You can contact your tutor directly at any time if you have any questions or problems, or if you would just like a chat about how the course is going. Tutorial support is by e-mail and/or telephone.



Enrol now

Using our secure server.

15% discount for online enrolments.

Only £250.75!

(Normal price - £295)

Product: Introduction to Permaculture

Product Code: perma

Quantity:

To pay by instalments check box (+£20):

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Award

Teaching Community

- Diverse skills & experience
- Loose, informal network:
 - Dynamic/responsive
 - Disconnected/isolated
 - Little support (CPD, PTLLS, QA)
 - Piecemeal course development
- Emergence of teaching teams
- Teaching capacity growth:
 - Meeting demand growth?

Anything else?

What other factors are influencing us?

Points from the floor

- Huge growth in interest in sustainability
 - How do we compare?
 - How do we link with related disciplines
- No market research (Use apple model!)
- Lack of shared/common course evaluation method or common goal
- “Maverick route” allows some teachers into teaching
- Horizontal exchange/informal learning
- Credit crunch
- Online course fell by wayside
- IfL – difficult to fit in – mainstream ed. language unfamiliar