

Evidence Without Borders: Wildlife forensics in India in a global conservation context

Course Conducted and modulated by DR. SIDDHARATHA SHARMA MCSFS WILDLIFER

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

India represents one of the most significant biodiversity regions in the world and simultaneously a major focal point in the global struggle against wildlife crime. Illegal trade in animal derivatives, habitat-linked offences, and transnational trafficking networks pose persistent challenges that require scientifically robust and legally sound responses.

This academic program introduces **Wildlife Forensics in India** as an interdisciplinary field that integrates biology, forensic science, and environmental law. Designed for presentation within an international academic setting, the program highlights how forensic methodologies are applied within India's ecological, legal, and enforcement frameworks, while maintaining relevance to global conservation discourse.

The course draws upon Indian case studies to demonstrate how scientific evidence supports wildlife crime investigation, prosecution, and policy implementation. Emphasis is placed on forensic credibility, ethical investigation, and the interface between science and justice.

ACADEMIC CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE

- India as a **biodiversity hotspot and wildlife crime transit region**
- Application of forensic science in conservation law enforcement
- Integration of national legislation with international conventions
- Relevance of Indian wildlife forensic practices to global conservation strategies

CORE LEARNING THEMES

- Principles of Wildlife Forensic Science
- Wildlife Biology for Forensic Investigations
- Species Identification and Morphological Analysis
- Examination of Physical and Biological Evidence (hair, bone, teeth, reptile derivatives)
- Legal Frameworks Supporting Wildlife Forensics in India

LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

The program introduces participants to the **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972**, India's primary wildlife legislation, and examines how forensic evidence contributes to investigation, prosecution, and judicial decision-making. Comparative references to international frameworks such as CITES are incorporated to contextualize India's role in global wildlife governance.

SPECIAL ACADEMIC SESSION

Guest Lecture: Via Online Mode

- **Reptile Forensics and Illegal Wildlife Trade in India: Mr. Manik (Wildlife Expert)**

- **Forensic Odontology (Special Emphasis Wildlife Forensic): Dr Aiswarya GR BDS, MFod**

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Date: 14 June 2026

Time: 09:00 – 16:00

- 09:00 – Orientation
- 09:30 to 10:40 – Introduction to Wildlife Forensics & Wildlife Biology: Indian Case Studies
Small Break and Discussion
- 10:50 to 11:30 – Legal Framework: The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972
- 11:30 to 12:45 – Guest Lecture: Reptile Forensics in India and reptile derivatives (Reptile Expert) via online mode

12:45 to 13:00 Discussion

Lunch Break

- 13:30-15:00 – Guest Lecture: Evidence study via teeth Odontologist Via online Mode
 - Special lecture on Other Biological Evidences, Wildlife poaching and Wildlife trafficking.
- 15:00-15:45 – Crime Scene Analysis Demo (Open Grounds)
- 15:45-16:00 – Closing Statements, Certificate of Participation for your records

TARGET AUDIENCE

- University students and doctoral researchers
- Conservation scientists and forensic professionals
- Academics and policy researchers
- Wildlife law and environmental studies scholars
- Wildlife Enthusiasts

OUTCOMES

Participants will gain:

- An academic understanding of wildlife forensic science in India
- Insight into the role of forensic evidence in conservation law enforcement
- Exposure to real-world case studies from a biodiversity-rich region
- A transferable framework applicable to international wildlife crime research

This brochure and handout are designed for academic dissemination, conference circulation, and institutional presentation within international universities.