

**SEMESTER II**  
**LSM3271 – FOREST ECOLOGY**

**Prerequisite: LSM1103**

**Workload: 26 lecture hours + 6 tutorial hours + 18 practical hours**

This module will introduce students to principles of forest ecology. Main topics will include diversity and distributions of forests, soils and nutrient cycling, animal-plant interactions [pollination, seed dispersal, herbivory], disturbance ecology and succession, energy flow and food webs, and population biology. Emphasis will be placed on how humans are affecting these ecological processes through their activities (e.g. logging, fragmentation, climate change).

S/N	Topics	Lecture hours
1	History and biogeography of tropical forests Patterns and mechanisms of species diversity across and within forests Nutrient cycles The carbon balance of forest ecosystems Forest foods and feeding: herbivores, carnivores, detritivores, parasites and other ways of getting food Forest phenology Reproductive ecology: pollination and seed dispersal Disturbance and recovery: succession Population ecology Fragmentation ecology Humans and conservation of tropical forests Mangrove ecology Climate change and tropical forest ecology	
<b>Lectures:</b>		<b>26h</b>
<b>Tutorials:</b>		<b>6h</b>
<b>Practicals:</b>		<b>18h</b>
<b>Total hours:</b>		<b>50h</b>

**TEXTBOOK:** Corlett, R. 2009. *The Ecology of Tropical East Asia*.

**MODE OF ASSESSMENT:** To be determined.

**MODULE CO-ORDINATOR:**

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