



UL Apiary Beekeeping course 2022

(In collaboration with UL Environmental Committee and Buren Beekeeping Association)

(8 weeks, blended learning format)

Registration is now open

Course Start Date 12 March 2022: Registration Deadline: 10 March 2022

To register and complete expression of interest please click on link below,

<https://forms.gle/bQ9X8necd1oXLVgh9>

Alternatively contact members of organising committee: Anna Piterina @ anna.piterina@ul.ie or

J.J.Leahy @ j.j.leahy@ul.ie

****Fees and Support: For UL Staff and Students, the full costs of the course fee are covered****

The UL Apiary, UL Environmental Committee and Buren Beekeeping Association are pleased to announce that registration is now open for 2022 Beginners Beekeeping Course (Bee and Hives Management). Course open for UL staff (current/ retired members) and UL students/Visiting Student/Placement students UL).

First meeting and lecture is scheduled for Saturday, **12 March 2022** (10:00-12:00) and will take place on campus of University of Limerick. Subsequent Lectures two to seven will be virtual (**Wednesday evenings, 19:00-20:30**). Practical hands-on sessions at the apiary will be offered to participants after completion of all theoretical sessions.

Whether you are completely new to beekeeping or already have a few years as an apiarist under your belt, you will gain valuable insights from our seasoned instructors and their combined experience. This course will give unique opportunity to all participants to hear from internationally recognised expert Speakers from across Ireland, to build new knowledge base, to gain a confidence in this area. Participation in this course also will provide opportunity to establish new connections with peer beekeepers across Limerick and Clare Countries, and other part of Ireland. Our students leave with one thing in common: a newfound confidence to start their own hives and pursue their passion for beekeeping.

Topics covered:

Biology of the Bee/The Beekeeping Calendar and Seasonal Beekeeping Management/
Hives, Equipment and Apiary management/Pests and Diseases Management of the
Honeybee/

Maintaining Bee Colonies/Swarming and Queen rearing/ Products of the Hive and Honey
production

Learning Outcomes Upon successful completion of this course, participant will be able to:

1. Explain what they need in order to get started in beekeeping
2. Know The name and function of the parts of a beehive
3. Describe the steps involved in setting up and maintaining a hygienic apiary, including location, site selection and legal methods of sourcing bees within Wildlife Act
4. Describe the development and function of the queen, workers and drones in the honeybee colony
5. Explain the process and role of pollination, wax production, comb building and honey production including common flora and the collection and use of pollen, nectar, water and propolis
5. Describe the year in the honeybee colony and the annual cycle of work in an apiary
6. Explain the concepts of bee space and spacing of combs, and the methods used for achieving spacing
7. Describe the processes of swarming and uniting colonies
8. Outline the possible effects of honeybee stings on humans and methods for treating them
9. Explain the threats of a bee colony including recognising the symptoms of common bee bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites including methods for dealing with the
10. Identify, through visual inspection, the stages of bee development, different bee types, comb and brood health, the range of hive cells, laying workers, drone laying queens and queenless colonies
11. Identify nectar, honey and pollen
12. Assemble a frame, to include selection of materials, use of tools and fitting
13. Implement the correct procedures for using hive tools, preparing a sugar syrup solution, smoking and opening a hive, keeping the colony under control, adding supers, removing combs and supers, storing combs and dealing with mice and other pests
14. Extract honey and beeswax from combs safely and hygienically, including straining and bottling of honey
15. Select a range of personal protective equipment, maintaining it safely and hygienically
16. Implement procedures to create and maintain a safe working environment including safety standards regarding lifting, carrying and handling plants, tools and equipment

Delivery format and participation requirements: In 2022, beekeeping course will be delivered via blended format to offer maximum flexibility to all participants who want to engage and complete this study. Course will combine online aspects with in-classroom experience to allow for an accessible learning style. Blended learning during this course will be realised via group meeting and lecture on site, tour to UL apiary, livestream lectures via Sulis Platform (one evening per week 19:00-20:30, Wednesdays starting March 23), access to materials on demand within dedicated virtual learning platform, hands-on sessions at apiary, mentoring sessions).