

CERES PDC Schedule PDC37 – February to June 2025

Our PDC is both a user's manual and restorer's guide for the planet we live on. Our studies of energy, climate, geology and ecology explore the huge systems that shape our living planet, while practicing the permaculture design process guides us towards outcomes that are both functional and ethical.

Whether we live in an inner-city rental apartment or a larger rural block, the course grounds us in the simple and practical steps that we can take to lead meaningful lives within the limits of what nature offers. We feel deeply connected to both the group and the content, and are fully immersed in this rich, learning experience.

Day	Date	Theme
Saturday	8 Feb	Welcome and overview. Introduction to permaculture. Ethics and principles.
Wednesday	12 Feb	Design 1 - Design process overview goals intention and making connections
Wednesday	19 Feb	Energy laws and Flows, Sun/Earth/Moon relationships, water cycle and climate/weather systems, geology
Saturday	22 Feb	Design 2 - Base Mapping. Sectors and zones. Client interview.
Wednesday	26 Feb	Ecology principles, Nutrient cycles, food webs, plants and photosynthesis, reading the landscape and weeds, planetary boundaries
Saturday	1 March	Design 3 - Reading the landscape and client site analysis / Design site visit afternoon

Wednesday	5 March	Design 4 - Site analysis summary and design group formation
Wednesday	12 March	Water Part 1: Water catchment, storage and conservation
Saturday	15 March	Urban Field Trips
Sunday	16 March	Urban Field Trips
Wednesday	19 March	Annual Cropping Systems
Saturday	22 March	Water Part 2: Water in the landscape AND Wild Foods
Wednesday	26 March	Soils Part 1
Saturday	29 March	Soils Part 2.
Wednesday	2 April	Design 5 - Concept design development
	5 April - 21 April	Break for school holidays, Easter and ANZAC public holidays
Wednesday	30 April	Perennial cropping systems
Saturday	3 May	Integrating animals AND Household resilience and RetroSuburbia
Wednesday	7 May	Social permaculture. Alternative economics.
Saturday	10 May	Alternative technology and buildings
Wednesday	14 May	Energy and civilisations

Saturday	17 May	Individual design presentations and Extending the harvest
Saturday	24 May	Rural Field Trips
Sunday	25 May	Rural Field Trips
Wednesday	28 May	Food sovereignty and seed saving
Saturday	31 May	Design 6 - Design presentations and course wrap up

Session Times

Wednesdays: 6.30 - 9.30pm

Saturdays: 9.30am - 4.30pm

9 Saturday sessions, 12 Wednesday sessions, 2 Sat+Sun weekend field trips

Please note: Topic order may be subject to change