

DENIN Environmental Scholars Internships

Dates of internship: 06/15/22-09/15/22 (1 day per week)

Location: Lewes/points of interest around Delaware

Number of positions available: 1 part-time

Faculty Mentor: Ed Hale

Project Title: An Assessment of Larval Oyster Recruitment in Delaware

Research Description:

Climate change will impact where and how humans live. As tides rise and storms intensify, humans will be forced to adapt to the changing environment and increase resiliency by learning more about local impacts of rising tides and intensified storms. Our research will evaluate the ability of shellfish to enhance shoreline resilience when added as part of a living shoreline system. This summer, a part-time intern will help with the first part of this project which is to evaluate the water conditions for shellfish development and recruitment

Student Learning Objectives: Professional and Research Skills

Broad Professional Skills	Specific Skills
Planning and time management	Requires an ability to set goals and complete tasks of varying scope
Work independently	Requires an Independent work ethic and the ability to problem-solve independently, as well as the capability to travel to and from field based collection sites
Collaborative skills	Requires an ability to complete tasks effectively with others
Express ideas in writing and verbally	Communicate with diverse audiences - Interact with professionals to collect meaningful scientific data on oyster recruitment and provide a write-up of associated project activities and significance
Broad Scientific Research Skills	Specific Skills
Collect & Interpret data	Identify larval oyster recruits and visually analyze recruitment data from summer long time series.

Data analysis	Data will need to be entered in Microsoft Excel and manipulated to examine statistically significant trends in larval oyster recruitment
Science Communication	Summarizing and relaying scientific information via multiple types of media including oral presentations, posters, social media, and other media.

Prerequisites:

Experience with Excel or spreadsheets.

Working knowledge of social media platforms.

Experience designing simple brochures or advertisements.

Good communication and organizational skills.

Work Environment and Expectations:

Laboratory Environment

Students will work part-time during the summer session from home or other working office space, as well as a laboratory environment in Lewes, DE. Field work is required, and will include site visits to coastal locations involving work that is both dirty and involves physical effort.

Students will also participate in a career retreat, communications workshop and end of internship summer symposium.

Stipend:

\$2,500

Funding Source:

National Science Foundation (NSF), EPSCoR Track 1, Project Water in a Changing Coastal Environment (WiCCED)

How to apply:

Submit a cover letter detailing your qualifications and interest in the position, resume, unofficial transcript and the names and contact information for at least two recommenders to Dr. Yolanda Williams-Bey at yolanda@udel.edu