

## 2019 Summer Internship Fisheries Oceanography & Ecology Lab



The [Fisheries Oceanography and Ecology Lab](#) (University of Southern Mississippi) invites applications for an Undergraduate Summer Internship. The successful candidate will work on a project funded by the [NOAA RESTORE Science Program](#) to examine the ecology and nursery habitat function of holopelagic *Sargassum* in the northern Gulf of Mexico. More information on this project can be found [here](#).

This position will be based out of the [Gulf Coast Research Lab](#) (GCRL) in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, where the intern will have the opportunity to gain hands-on field and lab training in research related to fisheries oceanography, marine biology, and trophic ecology. At sea, the intern will participate on a 9-day research cruise aboard the *R/V Point Sur*. While on board, the intern will: 1) use a variety of samplers to collect *Sargassum* and associated juvenile fishes; 2) assist with the collection of CTD profile data and water samples for nutrient analyses; 3) sort samples and preserve fishes for stable isotope, age and growth, and gut content analyses; and 4) assist with other cruise related tasks (e.g., data recording, gear cleaning and maintenance, etc.). At GCRL, the student will work in our Fisheries Oceanography & Ecology Lab and assist with the following: 1) cruise mobilization/demobilization; 2) sample sorting for juvenile fishes, invertebrates, and microplastics; 3) fish identification; and 4) other lab related tasks (e.g., imaging specimens under a microscope). The intern will work as part of a team, and learn from a diverse group of principal investigators, postdocs, graduate students, senior researchers.



The internship will be 8-10 weeks in duration, depending on the student's availability. The anticipated start date is May 20, 2019. The salary is \$400/week (before taxes). Housing is available on the GCRL campus and will be provided, if needed.

Eligible applicants include students currently enrolled in an undergraduate program at an accredited U.S. institution of higher education, or students who will have recently graduated from such programs (within one year at the time of the internship). Students need a minimum GPA of 3.0 and a strong interest in marine science, fisheries biology, or similar disciplines. Applicants must be willing and able to participate on a 9-day research cruise in the Gulf of Mexico; at the lab, applicants must be able to work full-time (40 hours per week) for the duration of the internship. In addition, applicants must be at least 18 years old, and eligibility is conditional on a USM background check. Possession of a valid driver's license is preferred, but not required. **First generation college students, students from Minority Serving Institutions, and students whose home institutions have limited research opportunities are particularly encouraged to apply.**



Application materials include: 1) a cover letter stating your interest in the position; 2) a CV, which includes contact information for three references; and 3) a copy of your academic transcript (unofficial copies are acceptable).

Application materials should be submitted online through the [USM Human Resources website](#) (RegID# 556).

The closing date for applications is February 8, 2019.

For direct inquiries about the position, please contact Dr. Frank Hernandez [frank.hernandez@usm.edu](mailto:frank.hernandez@usm.edu).