Water Quality Summer Internship

Purpose

The Water Quality Summer 2020 Internship will provide an experiential learning opportunity for two undergraduate students interested in pursuing a career related to coastal science, public outreach or science education. The interns selected for this program will gain practical work experience in a variety of settings, broaden their professional skill sets, and build working relationships among faculty, peers, and community leaders.

Objectives

- Participate in an ongoing freshwater wetland monitoring project;
- Participate in water quality summer education and outreach programs;
- Utilize and strengthen skills gained throughout academic career; and
- Produce deliverables for a project funded by the Georgia DNR-Coastal Resources Division (CRD) Coastal Incentive Grant Program (Cycle 22)

Project Description

The Water Quality Summer 2020 Internship will provide an opportunity for two undergraduate students to gain practical work experience while participating in ongoing water quality monitoring and outreach projects with the University of Georgia Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant’s Water Quality Program based out of Brunswick, Georgia. The students selected for this internship will 1) engage in a freshwater wetland study that involves hydrological and biological monitoring; 2) assist in the development of K-8 educational resources related to freshwater wetlands; 3) assist in the development of interactive trail features highlighting wetland plants, animals, and ecosystem services; 4) participate in summer outdoor education programs related to healthy ecosystems, water quality, and marine debris; and 4) engage in bi-monthly marine phytoplankton monitoring. Overall, Water Quality Summer 2020 Interns will gain experience in water quality/ecological field monitoring, including field equipment maintenance and calibration; public outreach and community engagement; and youth education.

Requirements

- 6 weeks/15-20 hours per week, up to 120 hours of experiential learning
- Internship assessments (pre- and post-assessments)
- Must be enrolled in college classes prior to and post internship and be able to provide enrollment documentation
• Participant must complete I-9 Employment Eligibility Verification, if funding is available for compensation

**Deliverables & Learning Objectives**

• Written Professional Goal Statement (1-2 pages)
• Student Blog Entry (to be featured on our website at gacoast.uga.edu)
• Develop a (K-8) lesson plan/hands-on activity for the freshwater wetland project
• Outreach poster highlighting internship experience
• Presentation to faculty and staff highlighting project and communication skills strengthened through active engagement in public outreach and youth education initiatives

**Supervisor:**

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