Georgia Coastal Ecosystems LTER
Summer Internship Application

The Georgia Coastal Ecosystems Long Term Ecological Research site (GCE) was established by the National Science Foundation in 2000. The study domain encompasses three adjacent sounds (Altamaha, Doboy, Sapelo) on the coast of Georgia, U.S.A., and includes upland (mainland, barrier islands, marsh hammocks), intertidal (fresh, brackish and salt marsh) and submerged (river, estuary, continental shelf) habitats. The GCE field site is based at the University of Georgia Marine Institute on Sapelo Island, and the program is administered at the University of Georgia Department of Marine Sciences in Athens, Georgia. Over 60 participants, representing 14 academic institutions and agencies, are currently involved in GCE research and educational programs.

Applicant Information

Citizenship (Note: Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible for most internships.)
Demographic Information

The Georgia Coastal Ecosystems Long Term Ecological Research program encourages participation by underrepresented groups and seeks to measure how effectively it is reaching diverse student populations.

Gender

- Male
- Female

Ethnicity (check all that apply)

- African American
- Hispanic-Latino
- Pacific Islander
- Choose not to answer
- Native American
- Asian
- White/Caucasian
- Other

Disability

If you have a disability, please provide us with more information.

Are you a member of Peachstate LSAMP?

- Yes
- No

Education
Transcripts are not needed at this time. Applicants who are accepted into the program will be required to provide an official transcript for verification.

Institution Where Currently Enrolled
Current Class (i.e. Junior)
Overall GPA
Major
GPA in Major
Expected Graduation (Month & Year)

For UGA applicants only:

810 Number
Have you ever been on the UGA payroll before?

Please list any completed coursework (including grade earned) in the physical or life sciences, mathematics, computer science, or other relevant field.

Course 1
Course 2
Course 3
Course 4
Course 5

Research Interest

Research Interest

The following research opportunities are open for summer 2020. Please rank the projects in order of preference. (click and drag to order)

**Salt marsh invertebrate ecology.** Supervisor: Christine Angelini (University of Florida). The intern will participate in salt marsh surveys, experimental manipulations, and sample collections designed to better understand salt marsh responses to disturbance as part of
You may also read the research interests of our project investigators [here](#). If any of our investigators are doing research that particularly interest you, provide their names and the part of their research you are interested in. (There is a possibility, but no guarantee, that an opportunity will open up with these researchers.)

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**Growing salt marsh plants hydroponically.** Supervisors: Dr. Steven Pennings (University of Houston) and Dr. Jessica O’Connell (UGA). The intern will develop methods for growing the salt marsh grass Spartina alterniflora hydroponically by adapting existing methods that have been used with other large grasses. This will set the stage for GCE staff to conduct experiments over the winter of 2020-21 where we will grow plants hydroponically so that we can periodically measure the roots and rhizomes as well as the shoots. The intern will develop the methods for doing this, testing different containers, hydroponic solutions, and methods for measuring roots and shoots to find which approaches work best. Experience with hydroponics, culture of plants or animals in captivity, or plumbing would be helpful. The position will be based on Sapelo Island Georgia for ~8 weeks during May-August 2020; housing will be provided. This position is limited to students who have not yet graduated.

**GIS land use and change of Sapelo Island.** Supervisors: Dr. Nik Heynen (UGA) and Dr. Dean Hardy (University of South Carolina). The intern will assist with land use and land cover change analysis of Sapelo Island, Georgia and the surrounding region. Required skills are demonstrated familiarity with GIS products and processes such as creating and editing shapefiles, creating and managing geodatabases, manipulating map projections and coordinate reference systems, georectification of scanned maps, heads-up digitizing, raster analysis and basic map algebra. Preferred skills include familiarity with collecting and importing GPS data into a GIS, knowledge of open source GIS platforms, and an ability to travel to the field site on Sapelo Island two to three times for 2-3 days at a time over the summer for data collection. The position will be based in Columbia, SC at the University of South Carolina for ~8 weeks during May-August 2020, where Dr. Hardy will be the immediate supervisor. This position is limited to students who have not yet graduated.

**Field assistant in coastal science.** Supervisor: Jacob Shalack (GCE LTER lead technician). The intern will work as a general assistant to the GCE technicians on Sapelo Island. Duties may include assisting in water quality sampling, plant and invertebrate monitoring, flux tower maintenance, helping a variety of research groups with field work, and light construction. This position will be primarily in the field, and will require strenuous physical activity and irregular hours. The position will be based on Sapelo Island, GA for ~10 weeks during May-August 2020; housing will be provided. This position is open to all undergraduate students, including graduating seniors.
Additional Information

**Statement of Interest**

Briefly describe your post-graduation plans and career goals, and specify your reasons for wanting to participate in this internship program. (1300 characters, approx. 200 words, max)

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**Skills and Experiences**

Explain any past experiences or specialized skills that may be relevant to these projects, such as experience in field or laboratory settings, equipment or software you have used, etc. (1300 characters, approx. 200 words, max)

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**Additional Information**

Describe any school activities, clubs or programs you have participated in, including offices held and academic honors earned, that are relevant to these internships. Also
describe any relevant experience with non-school clubs, activities, programs or conferences. (1300 characters, approx. 200 words, max)

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Please provide the name, title, and contact information (email and/or phone) for two professional references (i.e. professor, teaching assistant, employer, supervisor, etc.).

**Reference 1**
- Name: 
- Title: 
- Institution: 
- Email: 
- Phone: 

**Reference 2**
- Name: 
- Title: 
- Institution: 
- Email: 
- Phone: 

**References**

Please attach a CV or resume to accompany your application.
To submit your application, click the next button below.
Please review your application before submitting (you may not make changes once your application is submitted).