

M.S. Position in Fish Health



A Master of Science (M.S) position is available at Auburn University. The incoming student will be a Graduate Research Assistant in Dr. Tim Bruce's Fish Health Lab within the School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences (SFAAS). Research in the Bruce lab focuses on host-pathogen interactions in cultured fish species, nutritional aspects of fish health, and fish vaccinology/therapeutics.

Responsibilities and tasks

This M.S. project will involve experimental laboratory studies (~50%) and *in vivo* pathogen challenge trials (~50%) Specifically, this M.S. thesis research will examine mechanisms of co-infection in cultured, warmwater fish species. Overall, the student will be expected to conduct an independent research project followed by the writing and defense of a detailed thesis.

Qualifications

The lab team is looking for a motivated candidate who has:

- Bachelor's degree in the Biological Sciences
- Knowledge of aquaculture, microbiology, or fish health
- Proven ability to carry out goal-oriented work and fluent with data management systems (i.e. Excel, Word, statistical analysis)
- Lab competences in molecular biology (e.g., nucleic acid extraction, ELISA, gene expression (RT/qPCR), protein assays) and/or microbiology (e.g., culture, identification (PCR), microbe-related assays) would be considered an asset
- Fish husbandry experience will be an asset
- Ability to work in a team laboratory setting, as well as independently

Approval and Enrollment

This M.S. graduate appointment is subject to academic approval, and the candidate will be enrolled in the M.S. program within the School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences (SFAAS). For information about our program please see: <http://sfaas.auburn.edu/programs-of-study/graduate-studies/>

Salary and appointment terms

This project will be carried out at the E.W. Shell Fisheries Center, which is situated in Auburn, Alabama (<http://sfaas.auburn.edu/e-w-shell-fisheries-center/>). The salary (\$17,000 + fringe benefits) and appointment terms (2 yrs.) are consistent with the current rules for MSc degree students; typically, a tuition waiver is provided. The student will begin coursework and research in May or August 2021.

Application

Please submit your application no later than **31 March 2021**. Applications must be e-mailed to tjb0089@auburn.edu as a **single .pdf file/packet** containing all materials to be given consideration. The .pdf packet must include:

- Cover letter motivating the application (background, interests, goals)
- Curriculum vitae
- Contact information (e-mail and phone numbers) for three references
- Unofficial transcripts and GRE scores (refer to: <https://www.ets.org/gre>)

Further information

For further information about the project and assistantship, please contact Dr. Bruce at tjb0089@auburn.edu. Information on Auburn University may be found here: <http://www.auburn.edu/main/welcome/index.php>