

2012 Summer Internships

at the

**Center for Ohio River Research & Education
Thomas More College Biology Field Station**

(www.thomasmore.edu/fieldstation)



The Center for Ohio River Research and Education (CORRE) at the Thomas More College Biology Field Station is offering 10 paid research Internships for undergraduate students. These internships are primarily in the fields of aquatic biology, ecology and environmental science. Projects involve animal husbandry (fish & mussels), aquaculture, aquatic toxicology, big river sampling, bioassessments & biomonitoring, and DNA sequencing. Funding for the internships has come from a variety of grants, including the Boone County Conservation District, DUKE Energy, the Hamilton County Park District, the Rivers Institute at Hanover College, the Sanitation District, and the Toyota USA Foundation. Internships include a stipend of up to \$3000 and free on-site housing. (Part-time internships, environmental educators, camp mentors, and work-study positions and are also available for qualified students.)

Eligibility (*These are the minimum requirements for eligibility.*)

- Good Academic Standing and a minimum 2.75 G.P.A.
- Successful completion of General Biology I & II or General Chemistry I & II (or equivalent courses)

Application Materials (*Hard copies or electronic applications are acceptable.*)

- Cover Letter (*that addresses one's interests and motivation, relevant experiences and long-term professional goals*)
- Letter of Recommendation (*submitted with the other materials*)
- Application Form (can be found at www.thomasmore.edu/fieldstation under Research)



- Submit all application materials to:
Chris Lorentz, Ph.D.
Professor of Biology
Thomas More College
333 Thomas More Parkway
Crestview Hills, KY 41017
chris.lorentz@thomasmore.edu

(Hard copies or electronic applications are acceptable.)

Applications are due by Friday, March 02, 2012

(Selections will be made no later than Friday, March 30)

Brief Descriptions of the Summer Internships

I. Research Internships

There are approximately 10 full-time internship positions available which entail a \$3,000 stipend over the course of the summer and free on-site housing. (Interns may commute as well, if they prefer.) Most positions begin in mid-May and end on August 10, with a mid-summer break around the 4th of July. (The DUKE Energy project begins later on June 01.) Interns choosing to live on-site may move in beginning May 04 and stay through August 12.

The CORRE interns will be assigned to one or more of the following projects:

- **Bioassessment of the Ohio River.** This study is part of the long-term monitoring of the Ohio River near Zimmer Power Plant in Moscow, OH which began in 1971. Work includes physiochemical sampling, fish collections and habitat analyses. The hours are generally from 9am-12pm and 6-9pm, Monday-Friday. Night electrofishing will occur from 9pm-12am four times during the study. Fish tissues will be collected for DNA sequencing analyses.
- **Stream Assessments:** This project entails extensive stream assessments throughout Northern Kentucky, in conjunction with the Sanitation District No. 1 and the Boone County Conservation District. Interns will work alongside biologists from these agencies to conduct bacterial tests, physiochemical sampling, fish & macroinvertebrate collections and habitat analyses. All work will occur during the day from Monday-Friday.
- **Aquaculture and Mussel Research:** This internship entails working in the aquaculture lab at the Station, designed for the propagation of fish used in aquatic toxicology studies by the USEPA. Work includes daily harvesting of eggs, physiochemical sampling, tank maintenance and toxicity testing. In addition, interns will conduct experiments, in collaboration with the Ohio State University, to identify fish species that serve as hosts for native mussel larvae. This internship is primarily lab-based, unlike the previous two which are primarily field-based.
- **Other Projects:** Smaller research projects, including a lake survey for the Hamilton County Park District, a tracking study of the invasive Asian carp species, and curatorial work on the *John W. Ferner* Vertebrate Zoology Collections will also occur this summer. Interns are eligible to participate in these projects, in addition to their main assignments.

NOTE: For students who wish to earn academic credit for their internship, they may register for credit(s) in the fall semester at their home institution. The expectations for these credits will be outlined prior to registration.

II. Other Positions (Interns and other students are eligible to apply for these additional positions at the Station.)

- **Environmental Educators** (~20 hours/week during the month of May): Positions entail serving as field trip instructors for grade school groups who visit the Field Station for hands-on science activities. The hours are 9:00am-1:00pm, Monday –Friday. The pay rate is \$10/hr.
- **Work-Study Jobs** (throughout the summer at \$7.25/hr): Positions entail performing tasks in landscaping, maintenance and custodial work. Hours are flexible and determined by the Station Director and each intern.
- **Camp Mentors** (July 15-July 20): Students will serve as camp mentors during a S.T.E.M. camp for approximately 40 high school students from local schools. Mentors will stay in the residence hall for the week with the campers and assist faculty with the daily educational activities and social events throughout the week. A stipend of \$100 and meals are provided.
- **Summer Courses:** Two courses will be offered at the Field Station during the months of June and July. The first is ***Aquatic Toxicology***, taught by aquatic biologist and ecotoxicologist, Dr. Jim Lazorchak from the USEPA. The class will meet from 6:00-8:45pm on Tuesdays from June 05 - July 24. (This course is geared towards science majors.) The second is ***Environmental Law and Policy*** taught by environmental attorney and water policy expert, Olivia Green, Research Fellow at the USEPA. This class will meet from 6:00-8:45pm on Thursdays from June 07 - July 26. This course is open to all majors.

NOTE: For students in these other positions and for those enrolling in summer courses, on-site housing is also available.

CORRE Internship Application Form

(Please complete this form and submit, along with a cover letter and letter of recommendation, by March 02.)

Name: _____ D.O.B. _____

Permanent Address: _____

Primary Phone: _____ G.P.A. _____

School: _____ Class Year: _____

Major(s): _____ Major Advisor: _____

Career Goals: _____

Relevant Coursework & Experience: _____

Indicate the projects in which you are interested (*Check all those that apply*)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ohio River Bioassessment | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Educator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stream Assessments | <input type="checkbox"/> Camp Mentor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Work-Study Job |
| Summer Courses: <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Toxicology | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Law and Policy |

If selected, would you like to live at the Field Station? Yes No Unsure

On-site housing for interns consists of separate houses, each complete with five bedrooms, a living room, kitchen and full bathroom. Washers and dryers are also available in each house. Interns typically share a room with one other intern or may receive a single room, pending space. Room assignments are made according to age, gender and home institution. Additional on-site housing is available for environmental educators, camp mentors and work-study students in the newly-constructed education lodge & conference center.