

The Alaska Coastal Field Institute

July 22-August 23, 2019



The Alaska Coastal Field Institute (ACFI) is a unique opportunity for undergraduate and continuing education students! Through this intensive, five-week program, you will gain hands-on experiences with diverse and immersive field study opportunities. Collect plankton samples and assess them for species that cause paralytic shellfish poisoning and other harmful algal blooms. Participate in the marine mammal stranding network and assist with a sea otter necropsy. Race against the tide to finish a transect line in one of the most biodiverse rocky intertidal zones on the planet. Go on a sea star hunt, searching for evidence of sea star wasting syndrome and potential recruitment of juveniles and population recovery. These are just some of the field study opportunities that ACFI students engage in during their five weeks in Kachemak Bay.

ACFI is built around four core experiences (each about a week in duration) hosted by local research agencies and community-organizations in the Kachemak Bay area. These core experiences provide a fun, fascinating, and highly effective way to learn how scientific knowledge is being built and used in Kachemak Bay. You will also attain job-related skills in research design, data collection, analysis, and scientific communication. Plus, grow your professional network and become familiar with a number of the research agencies working in Kachemak Bay, exploring different career options and build connections with organizations that offer seasonal internships[^], as well as research/graduate school positions!

Each core experience determined by the partner agencies offers students insight into their most interesting and important research, community-based monitoring, and science communication work.

The Partners:

- Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies (CACS) and the Peterson Bay Field Station
- The Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- NOAA Kasitsna Bay Laboratory

Fee of \$3,000* covers instruction, supplies & equipment, housing, most meals & travel across the Bay.

For more information contact: Katie Gavenus, Program Director, CACS at 907-235-6756 or

katieg@akcoastalstudies.org

[^]Internships may be conducted for university credit. Contact Dr. Debbie Tobin (907-299-8380, ddtobin@alaska.edu) for more details.

*Fee subject to change, contact Katie Gavenus for updates,