



# UNIVERSITY of ALASKA SOUTHEAST

## Salmon Culture Semester

A hands-on learning experience at UAS Sitka Campus

### WHEN

Fall semester 2019  
August 26-December 13

### WHO

Students interested in fisheries management, and aquaculture sciences!



### Why Sitka?

Sitka serves as the perfect backdrop for a semester of experiential study focusing on salmon culture techniques as applied in Alaska's enhancement facilities. Sitka, a town of 9000 people, lies on the outer edge of Baranof Island in Southeast Alaska, and offers unique opportunities for hands-on marine studies. Fisheries are the backbone of the community, which is home to an Alaska Department of Fish and Game office, an aquaculture association, three hatcheries, five working harbors, several industrial seafood processors, and many commercial, sport, and subsistence fishermen. In addition, Sitka boasts a dynamic, diverse, and inclusive community! When students are not immersing themselves in the multifaceted fishing industry in town, they will have the opportunity to get to know Sitka in a number of ways—through unparalleled outdoor opportunities, natural history seminars, community concerts and activities, and its bustling downtown.

### Aquaculture in Sitka

Sitka has developed a reputation as a stronghold for aquaculture within the state, especially in regards to aquaculture education. The Sheldon Jackson Hatchery located within the Sitka Sound Science Center and has been providing education opportunities since 1974 to students of all ages and levels of expertise. Many fish culturists working across the state got their start there, and UAS students are eligible for internships there.

The Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association also runs three hatcheries on the island: Medvejie Hatchery, Hidden Falls hatchery and Sawmill Creek Hatchery. Medvejie has the most successful sport and commercial Chinook production program in Southeast Alaska; they also produce chum and coho. Sawmill Creek, the newest facility in Sitka, produces coho and chum.

All four facilities have very different processes and production goals, creating the perfect educational experience for students in the area who get to learn about and observe a wide range of hatcheries up-close. During the Salmon Culture Semester, students will also become familiar with remote rearing techniques by traveling to one of the many remote hatchery facilities in Southeast Alaska.





## Core Aquaculture Semester Courses (13 Credits):

### FT 122: Alaska Salmon Culture I (3 cr)

*Basic principles of Pacific salmon enhancement.*

### FT 222: Alaska Salmon Culture II (3 cr)

*Second part of a 2-part sequence; focus on modern salmon enhancement techniques.*

### FT 230: Alaska Salmon Culture Lab (1 cr)

*Hands on, in-depth look at salmon culture techniques as they get applied in hatcheries in and around Sitka.*

### FT 291: Fisheries Technology Internship (3 cr)

*Students are matched with local facilities to develop hands-on skills.*

### FT 193: Cold Water Survival (1 cr)

*The basic principles of cold water survival, taught in the classroom, pool sessions, and in the open ocean.*

### MT 119: Small Vessel Operator (1 cr)

*Basics of ski handling, operation, and maintenance for small skiffs in Alaskan waters.*

### MT 120: Outboard Motor Maintenance (1 cr)

*Basic troubleshooting and maintenance for small outboard motors.*

### Other courses available to students!

SCUBA Diving, Scientific Diving, Introduction to Fisheries of Alaska, Fresh Water Ecology, Fisheries Biology, Introduction to Oceanography, Natural History of Alaska, Flora of Southeast Alaska, Tlingit Language, Ceramics, Welding, Yoga, Fitness Classes, and more!

### Classrooms

All classes will be held on the UAS campus or at local field sites. Transportation to field sites is provided by the University. UAS classrooms are equipped with Smart Boards, VCON, and Wi-Fi. Our small class sizes make it easy for our students to receive personal attention from our top-notch faculty.

### Lodging

Sitka has many housing options, including co-occupancy rooms from the Sitka Fine Arts Camp on the historic Sheldon Jackson Campus, long term off-season occupancies at local fishing lodges, hostels, hotels, and B&Bs, and other short-term rentals.



Sitka Fine arts Campus  
photo credit: Joshua Houston

### Local Fisheries Operations

Students will have the opportunity to work with a number of hatcheries in and around Sitka. There are also opportunities to shadow fishermen, employees at seafood processing plants, and Fish and Game professionals.



**Approximate Cost** Tuition and Fees = \$3,500.

### Application Deadline:

May 15, 2019 for priority consideration, followed by an open enrollment until filled, 25 participants maximum.

*UAS is an AA/EO employer and educational institution.*

### For More Information:

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