

Call for Applications

**Winter Course in Tropical Marine Science
in the Red Sea (Eilat, Israel)**

Dec. 24th, 2017 – Jan. 5th, 2018 (dates TBC)

Supported by the Schulich Ocean Studies Initiative

The Schulich Ocean Studies Initiative

The Schulich Ocean Studies Initiative of the Schulich Foundation brings together marine scientists and researchers from Israel and Dalhousie University to undertake joint marine research projects, student internships and field courses in both countries (<http://www.iui-eilat.ac.il/SchulichInitiative/Default.aspx>).

The differing ocean environments of the Red Sea and the North Atlantic, together with similar phenomena (strong vertical mixing, spring blooms, animal migration and dispersal among rich benthic communities, etc.), as well as shared interests and expertise among Dalhousie and Israeli researchers in both basic marine science and aquaculture, indicate a high potential for innovative science.

Course description

This course is being offered as part of the Initiative and will cover basic topics in physical, chemical, and biological oceanography, marine geology, biogeochemistry, and coral-reef biology, focusing on subtropical (warm-water) seas, on the coral reef ecosystem, and on the unique characteristics of the Gulf of Eilat. The course consists of two parts: the first part (6 days) includes lectures, laboratories, demonstrations, and field excursions (snorkeling at the reef and half-day research cruise). The second part is devoted to supervised research carried out by groups of 5-6 students. The students carry out the research project from the stage of planning through presentation of the results and writing the report (in the format of a scientific paper). Most projects have a major sea component (coral reef or open water) and are supervised by a TA.

Scope

This call is made to solicit applications for the above described course being offered as an accredited Dalhousie course (half-credit) through the Seaside program. This fully-funded opportunity will cover the costs of travel, accommodation, food, and extra course costs (students are responsible for paying the normal tuition fees). Students not covered under the DSU insurance policy may be asked to purchase travel insurance. The course will be hosted by the Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences in Eilat, Israel (on the Red Sea).

Dates

Course dates: Sunday, December 24th to Friday, January 5th (dates to be confirmed in early March 2017). Students must be available a few days before and after the course for travel and a field trip.

Eligibility

Senior undergraduate students (have completed second year) with a background in ocean sciences, marine biology, or other physical sciences are eligible to apply. Canadian citizens do not require a visa to Israel; non-Canadians should check the [visa requirements](#). Students must be available during the period the course is offered (willing to miss the Holiday break) and must feel comfortable working in a cross-cultural setting.

1) Application Process

Interested eligible students are asked to e-mail the completed application form (<http://www.iui-eilat.ac.il/SchulichInitiative/Default.aspx>) together with the requested supporting documents to Danielle Andres (danielle.andres@dal.ca).

2) Selection Process

Eight students will be selected for the field course. Applicants will be evaluated based largely on academic success and will be selected by a panel of professors and administrators participating in the Schulich Initiative.

3) Timeline

Deadline for applications: 27 February 2017
Interviews for shortlisted candidates: mid-March
Course Offering: Dec. 24th, 2017 – Jan. 5th, 2018 (dates TBC)

4) Contact (any questions or concerns)

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