

Program learning outcomes.

Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Graduate Program Mission Statement:

The mission of the Aquaculture and Aquatic Resources Graduate Program of the University of Maine is to produce engaged scholars and professionals by promoting excellence in all aspects of the graduate student experience. This program provides advanced graduate education and professional training through innovative teaching, mentorship, and research in established and emerging areas of aquaculture and aquatic resource science. This rigorous education prepares students to contribute meaningfully to the advancement of the state of Maine, the nation and the global community.

Students successfully completing either of this PhD/MS program will be able to demonstrate the following:

Understand, interpret, shape, and augment the knowledge base by:

- Students will demonstrate an advanced level of knowledge of a relevant area of aquaculture or aquatic resources. Assessment: Initial literature review, thesis and thesis defense
- Students will be able to use critical thinking skills to create an appropriate literature review relevant to the specific project. Assessment: Initial literature review, thesis and thesis defense
- Students will identify knowledge gaps and will offer suggestions that contribute to/augment/shape the relevant area of aquaculture or aquatic resources. Assessment: Initial literature review, thesis and thesis defense
- Students will develop and implement a research plan that addresses research questions and/or hypotheses. Assessment: thesis plan
- Students will demonstrate competence in the synthesis and analysis of quantitative/qualitative data. Assessment: completion of appropriate statistical or experimental design course (such as PSE509 or FSN 524) and thesis

Share disciplinary expertise openly, effectively, and accurately by:

- Students will effectively communicate (oral/or written) their research plan and results to various audiences. Assessment: Completion of appropriate seminar courses such as AVS633 or SMS691, conference abstracts and/or journal manuscript acceptance (PhD requirement is at least one co-authored, accepted, original manuscript)

Demonstrate responsible and ethical practice by:

- Students will be able to articulate the fundamental elements that constitute Responsible Conduct in Research as it applies to aquaculture or aquatic resources. Assessment: Satisfactory completion of UMaine required courses (INT601 or similar)