

MS Assistantship Opportunity: Using Sonar to Map Seagrass distribution and disturbance in South Texas

The University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB) is offering a Graduate Research Assistantship (MS) to assist in developing techniques to map seagrass distribution and monitor disturbance using high frequency sonar. The appointment will begin no later than Spring 2015 in the Biological Sciences Department at the University of Texas at Brownsville (<http://www.utb.edu/biology/>) and can be renewed through Spring 2016. The student will be employed as a graduate research assistant and will be expected to work 19 hours/week in the laboratory of his/her faculty teaching mentor(s) and participate in departmental outreach events. The research will be conducted near South Padre Island, TX in the Lower Laguna Madre.

Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in biology, ecology or related field. Successful candidates must demonstrate an aptitude for research and ability to work independently. Prior experience with small boat use, sonar and GIS is preferred, as is the ability to conduct fieldwork under hot weather conditions. A current, valid U.S. driver's license and good driving record is also preferred. The successful applicant will be expected to enroll full time in the UTB Biological Sciences Master of Science program pursuing the thesis option. The available assistantship has \$1250 per month stipend, is benefits eligible, includes a waiver for in-state-tuition for out-of-state students, and a tuition scholarship of \$2500 per fall/spring semester.

Interested applicants should send to Dr. Richard Kline (richard.kline@utb.edu) a copy of their CV or resume, transcripts, GRE scores, a written statement of graduate research interests, and two letters of reference. A minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 and minimum new GRE scores of: verbal 153 and quantitative 144 are required. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

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