



Research Experience for Pre-Service Teachers (REPT)
Indian River State College (IRSC), Broward College (BC), and Florida
SouthWestern State College (FSW)
SUMMER 2015

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The COSEE Florida REPT program offers students and recent graduates in science education the opportunity to learn first-hand about the process of scientific discovery and research. Students from IRSC, Florida SouthWestern State College, and Broward College will work with local scientists on marine science research projects. Students will be paid a stipend, funded by COSEE Florida and the National Science Foundation. The students we accept this summer will work with at least one research scientist mentor and COSEE Florida staff members.

The following are examples of research projects students participated in during last summer's REPT program:

- **Florida Oceanographic Society (FOS):** Comparison of Oyster Restoration Approaches on Oyster Growth, Survival, Condition and Associated Species.
- **Smithsonian Marine Station (SMS):** 1) Biological and Chemical Diversity of Marine Cyanobacteria from Southern Florida and 2) Interaction Between Microbial Symbionts and Marine Sponges within the Indian River Lagoon and Southern Florida.
- **Florida Aquaculture Foundation (FAF) – Florida Organic Aquaculture (FOA):** STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in Aquaculture
- **Sanibel Captiva Conservation Foundation (SCCF):** Scallop Sanctuaries in Tarpon Bay
- **Nova Southeastern University – Oceanographic Center (NSU-OC):** Characterizing the microbiome of a model Florida reef sponge and preparing marine samples for genomic analysis.

INTERN GOALS

1. To gain valuable experience doing authentic science.
2. To increase understanding of and enthusiasm for scientific research.
3. To provide resources and strategies for applying REPT experience to the middle school classroom.

ELIGIBILITY

Students must be in good academic standing at the time of application and be enrolled as a second-semester junior or senior at IRSC, Edison State College, or Broward College in the Middle Grades Science or Secondary Biology Bachelor of Science degree program by the time the program begins. Recent graduates (December 2014) and former REPT alumni who have not held a full-time teaching position are also encouraged to apply.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

This seven-week, 175 hour program will run from Monday May 11 to Wednesday July 1, 2015. The **minimum** time commitment expected throughout the REPT experience will be, on average, 25 hours per week. Approximately 20 hours will be devoted to research with the remaining 5 hours spent at team meetings. Research work loads will vary with the project design and may involve periods of intense work of 8 hours or more. Students involved in field work should be comfortable in and around the water and on small boats, and should expect to get wet and muddy. Rain, strong sun and insects are also common occurrences during field research.

Tentative Weekly Schedule

Week	Activity
May 11	Orientation at IRSC
May 12-June 19	Research

June 22-26	Analysis, poster presentations and CSTAR completion
July 1	Science Symposium Presentations

Required Meetings

When	Where	Topic
Wednesdays	IRSC Main Campus and/or virtually	Science research discussions and presentations. Incorporating research into science education activities/discussions.
Biweekly	TBA	Lab visits and working on CSTAR project

Required Submissions

- Reflections: Science research and education related reflections submitted weekly to the Facebook REPT Group
- CSTAR (COSEE Florida Science Teachers as Researchers) short educational video
- Scientific poster to be presented at COSEE Florida Science Symposium
- Completion and documentation of a minimum of 175 hours active participation

Continued Engagement

- You are required to participate in a minimum of one COSEE Florida sponsored and/or Water As Habitat activity
- You may have opportunities to present your research at scientific conferences

Application Requirements

In order to successfully apply to COSEE Florida's 2014 Summer REPT program, applicants must submit the following documents by **March 14, 2014**. The application and letter of recommendation forms are found at www.coseeflorida.org.

1. On-line application (<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2015REPTapplication>)
2. Two (2) letters of recommendation sent or emailed, to Meghan Buckley (mbuckley@irsc.edu); mailbox in N220.
3. Approval for IRSC college officials to access course records. *Be certain to check this box on the application form.*

Letters of Recommendation

In order to be eligible, recommendation letters from the following people **MUST** be received by **March 13, 2014**.

- Letter 1 - Instructor in Science Education, an instructor from the Education Department or your Cooperating Teacher.
- Letter 2 – Science faculty member or your college academic advisor.

Interviews

Required interviews will be conducted **early-April**. Acceptance decisions will be made by **mid-April**. Students who are not accepted can ask to be placed on a waiting list for any last-minute openings.

Stipends, Credit and Time Commitment

Students in the program will receive a research stipend, based on the hours they work, in four installments on or near the following dates: **June 15, June 30, July 15 and July 30**.

Health Insurance

Students who are accepted must provide evidence of health insurance prior to the first day of activities.