Department Mission

The overall mission of the aquatic resources program is to:

» pursue questions related to aquatic resources at all levels of organization, from molecules to the biosphere, across a diversity of fields, including ecology, geology, hydrology, molecular and organismal biology, resource management, the social sciences and toxicology

» improve collective knowledge and literacy in the science of aquatic resources through experimental, theoretical and field research and disseminate this knowledge to the general public, academics, government and non-governmental organizations

» utilize knowledge of aquatic sciences and resources to address environmental, biological and societal issues the world currently faces

Further Study

» Aquatic Resources, Ph.D.

For the caliber of faculty, the location of campus and the resources allotted, Texas State cannot be beat. The people I’ve met and worked with here will better prepare me for my career in aquatic resources.

– Zach Shattuck, M.S. ’10

Department of Biology

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The aquatic resources program is a multidisciplinary program of study and research based on aquatic sciences and aquatic resource management.
How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at:
gradcollege.txstate.edu/intl_home

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Priority Fall: February 1
Fall: June 15
Spring: October 15
Summer: April 15

Applications will continue to be considered on a space-available basis after the deadline.

Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for funding.

Why choose Texas State?
Texas State’s proximity to the San Marcos River and Spring Lake, the Aquarena Center and the Freeman Aquatic Biology Building provides students with a unique opportunity for study and research. The location also offers students access to a diversity of exceptional aquatic ecosystems throughout the Texas Hill Country and the Edwards Aquifer.

Local resources give students the ability to study habitats for threatened or endangered species, develop and promote programs and techniques to ensure sustainable water resources and work in modern facilities.

Course Work
The Department of Biology at Texas State offers a master of science with a major in aquatic resources, a thesis-based degree that requires a minimum of 31 credit hours of course work. Students can select one of two areas of concentration: aquatic biology or aquatic systems. Students in the aquatic biology concentration focus on the biology and ecology of aquatic organisms and the dynamics and management of aquatic ecosystems. Students in the aquatic systems concentration focus on understanding the structure and functioning of aquatic systems as integrated physical, biological and socioeconomic entities. The program emphasizes practices aimed at protecting, maintaining and restoring the health and sustainable use of these resources.

Faculty
Faculty, as well as students, conduct research in the 30,000-square-foot Freeman Aquatic Biology Building which overlooks experimental ponds and the San Marcos River. It contains laboratories, a wet lab and an array of instruments for aquatic studies. The wet lab is equipped with holding troughs, artificial stream systems and aquaria for laboratory studies. Artesian well water from the Edwards Aquifer is continuously supplied to the wet lab and bioassay lab, ensuring a constant supply of high-quality water for research.

Career Options
M.S. aquatic resources graduates enter careers in the fields of aquatic resource management, aquatic biology and hydrogeology. Graduates are also able to find research-oriented positions in government agencies, non-governmental organizations or the private sector. The program prepares students to teach at the community college level or to continue their education by pursuing doctoral studies.