

Seagrass Ocean Rescue Intern

Start date:	Between July- September 2023.
Contact length	40 weeks minimum.
Salary:	Unpaid position: however, all travel expenses will be covered.
Location:	This position is based in South Wales. This internship will be a mix of working Swansea University and from the Project Seagrass Head Office, Bridgend. There will be various travel to fieldwork and outreach events.
Deadline for application:	Please send a CV and cover letter (1-page maximum) to issy@projectseagrass.org . The deadline is 24th February 2023 ; interviews will be carried out the first week of March online, and decisions will be made in mid-March.

Placement Description	<p>This placement will support the Seagrass Ocean Rescue team to undertake their marine science and conservation project activities on behalf of Swansea University and Project Seagrass. Seagrasses are the unsung heroes of our coastal seas. As much as 92% of the UK's seagrass has been lost – restoring it is vital for ocean health, our climate, fisheries and coastal livelihoods.</p> <p>The Seagrass Ocean Rescue team are working to restore seagrass meadows around the UK in collaboration with local people. The placement will be varied, offering a breadth of office-, laboratory- and field-based marine science experience to the candidate, enhancing their employability upon graduation. The placement will also support the capacity to deliver on research, conservation and engagement commitments for current and future projects, while maintaining its global reputation as a centre of expertise in seagrass restoration. The placement will involve travel to various fieldwork sites including North Wales and Solent.</p> <p>The placement will involve a variety of marine science duties, including office-, laboratory- and field-based activities. Depending on the timing of project activities, duties may involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collecting and storing seagrass seeds from existing healthy seagrass meadows for planting during ongoing restoration projects. • Surveying and monitoring ongoing seagrass planting experiments. • Sorting and processing samples of seagrass, marine sediments and benthic marine fauna in the laboratory. • Routine maintenance of seagrass aquarium facilities and equipment. • Collecting and handling scientific data. • Taking part in public outreach and education activities (online and/or in-person). • Responsibility for following health and safety guidelines during all operations. • Engaging with the wider Swansea University and Project Seagrass teams during regular meetings and informal discussions. • Helping create posts for our social media platforms.
Learning Outcomes	<p>Marine science and conservation employment is extremely competitive and employers value work experience very highly during recruitment.</p> <p>With this placement, we hope to offer a broad and accessible work experience for university students, which will undoubtedly develop their employability skills and boost their CVs without the costs and other barriers associated with volunteering. As an internationally renowned centre of expertise for seagrass science and restoration,</p>

	<p>this association alone will be of value to the candidate(s) and employment references will be available on successful completion of a placement.</p> <p>Furthermore, the placement will benefit from being embedded amongst our varied inter-disciplinary team of researchers, technicians, educators and social scientists. They will have the opportunity to work with and learn from people at all stages of their careers, from project interns to senior academic staff, gaining insight into the various roles and pathways available in university-based marine biology work. Practical skills that will be developed include fieldwork skills (e.g. species identification, intertidal and/or underwater survey methods, data collection and handling, equipment maintenance), laboratory skills (e.g. following protocols, processing biological samples), health and safety responsibilities and interpersonal skills (e.g. professional engagement in meetings and discussions). There may also be opportunities to take part in public engagement and education activities, which are increasingly recognised as a crucial part of any marine conservation work.</p>
<p>Candidate Specifications</p>	<p>This placement is open to applications from students studying a degree in Marine Biology, Biosciences, Biology, Zoology, Environmental Sciences, Geography with a keen interest in marine conservation and restoration.</p> <p>Desirable skills include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to work flexibly within a dynamic team according to the requirements of the project • Ability to follow written protocols and verbal instructions with attention to detail. • Foundation knowledge of seagrass systems, intertidal and shallow subtidal ecology. • Experience in marine science fieldwork on beaches/boats and using snorkel equipment. • UK driving license. • SCUBA qualification at CMAS 3* level or equivalent would be advantageous. • Experience in collecting and handling scientific data. • Enthusiasm for engaging with the wider team and members of the public. • Appreciation of the importance of scientific rigour when undertaking duties. • Appreciation of the importance of following health and safety guidelines when undertaking duties. • Desirable if Welsh Speaking.
<p>Placement Supervisor and Contact</p>	<p>Issy Inman- issy@projectseagrass.org</p> <p>If you have any enquires about the placement, please contact Issy Inman.</p>