



HUYCK PRESERVE AND BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH STATION

P.O. Box 189 ~ 5052 DELAWARE TURNPIKE ~ RENSSELAERVILLE, NY ~ 12147

Odum Internship in Field Ecology Recommendation Instructions

Application Deadline: Second Friday of March, 5:00 PM

Dear Referee,

The student you are writing for is applying to participate in the *Odum Internship in Field Ecology* at the Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station. The Preserve is located approximately 30 miles southwest of Albany, New York, on the western edge of the Helderberg Plateau. Since the Preserve's establishment in 1931, hundreds of scientists have conducted research here, having been attracted by our diverse habitats and research legacy. More than 80 years later, the Preserve continues to offer research and educational opportunities—such as Huyck Grants, a Senior Research Fellowship, and the Odum Internship—for both established and nascent scientists (see below for more details).

If accepted into the Odum Internship program, the student will live at the station for eight weeks and conduct a field-based ecological research project under the supervision of a senior researcher. The Odum Internship program allows students to explore ecological, evolutionary, and behavioral research as a career option and provides instruction and guidance in the design and execution of a scientific investigation. Participation in the program requires intellectual ability and curiosity, hard work, attention to detail, initiative, and the ability to live in close quarters with a variety of other people.

Applications for admission will not be reviewed without a reference. Your timely response is appreciated. When submitting your letter, include the student's last name in the e-mail subject line and in the file name (example: SMITH_Internship REC). Completed recommendations should be submitted by e-mail, by the application deadline, to research@huyckpreserve.org.

Thank you!

Agreement respecting confidentiality:

It is the policy of the Odum Internship program to maintain referee confidentiality. But student applicants are given the opportunity to waive, or not waive, their right of access to this recommendation form under the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy act of 1974](#). The program will not release referee material unless required to under the Act, or other legal order. This recommendation form will be used by the Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station solely in its procedures relating to Odum Internship program admission.

In your letter, please address the following:

1. Include your name and contact information (address, e-mail, and phone number) as well as the name of the student you are recommending for the program.
2. Indicate your relationship to student and give a brief description of the courses/projects in which you mentored the student.
3. Give a statement describing the student's academic strengths and weaknesses, performance in group settings, maturity and character. Any additional comments or insight into this student's abilities and interest in this course would also be greatly appreciated.



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Research and Educational Opportunities at the Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station

Odum Internship in Field Ecology

<https://www.huyckpreserve.org/odum-internship.html>

One of the Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station's primary goals is to foster science education and research. In honor of Eugene Odum, the father of ecosystems ecology, the Preserve offers the Odum Internship for undergraduate students interested in conducting field research. Interns spend eight weeks with visiting scientists developing original research projects in ecology, conservation or environmental and evolutionary biology.

Huyck Grants in support of ecological field research

<https://www.huyckpreserve.org/huyck-research-grants.html>

The Preserve also offers four to five Huyck Grants each year to selected scientists, as well as to postdoctoral and graduate students. We support work in basic and applied ecology, conservation biology, animal behavior, evolution, geology, and other areas of natural science. Grants range from \$1,500-\$3,500 with preference for projects that involve extended residencies.

Senior Research Fellowship for Ph.D.-level researchers

<https://www.huyckpreserve.org/senior-research-fellowship.html>

For well-established scientists, a Senior Research Fellowship is available. Fellows receive a \$10,000 grant and maintain residence at the Preserve for 10 weeks, primarily between May and August. While in residence, Fellows conduct research and direct the Odum Internship program. Fellows, along with Huyck Grant recipients, present their work at the Preserve's annual Science Symposium and participate in educational and outreach activities.

Wildlife Ecology Research

<http://www.huyckpreserve.org/wer>

For young scientists still in high school, the Preserve offers Wildlife Ecology Research, a three week pre-college residential program where students learn ecology through hands-on research. Visiting researchers introduce students to ecological topics using a diverse array of wildlife and research techniques. The program culminates in small group research projects students develop and implement from hypothesis to final paper.

Day or weekend excursions to the Huyck Preserve for instruction in field ecology

The Preserve is also well suited for undergraduate instructors to bring courses on day trips or weekend excursions to give students concrete examples of ecological concepts and exposure to research techniques. We offer housing that can accommodate up to 30 students, access to all of the Preserve's 2,000+ acres, and wet and dry lab space. Visiting classes are free to plan their own programming or can receive tailored instruction from Preserve staff (education@huyckpreserve.org, 518-797-3440)