



Odum Internship in Field Ecology Recommendation Instructions

Application Deadline: February 21, 2020

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 for both established and nascent scientists — such as Huyck Research Grants, a Senior Research Fellowship, and the Odum Internship (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 Susan Beatty, Ph.D., this year's Senior Research Fellow. The Odum Internship program allows students to explore research in the natural sciences as a career option and provides instruction and guidance in the design and execution of a scientific investigation. Interns will also play a role in the Preserve's high school summer program and will help mentor those students in their independent projects. Participation in the program requires intellectual ability and curiosity, hard work, attention to detail, initiative, interest in teaching and communicating science, 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 anne@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 the 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 program would also be greatly appreciated.



HUYCK PRESERVE

AND BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH STATION

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

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, one of the fathers of ecosystem 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, environmental, and evolutionary biology.

Huyck Grants in support of ecological field research

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

The Preserve offers Huyck Research Grants each year to selected scientists, including graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and established scientists. We support work in basic and applied ecology, conservation biology, animal behavior, evolution, geology, and other areas of natural science. Typical grants range from \$1,000-\$3,000 with preference for projects that involve extended residencies.

Wildlife Ecology Research

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

For young scientists still in high school, the Preserve offers Wildlife Ecology Research, a two-week 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 independent or small group research projects.

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. [Contact education@huyckpreserve.org](mailto:education@huyckpreserve.org) or call 518-797-3440.