

Bachelor of Science in Fisheries Science Outcomes Assessment

MISSION STATEMENT:

The SFOS Fisheries Division will create a center of academic excellence in the fisheries discipline that promotes lifelong learning for undergraduate students preparing to enter a career in fisheries.

GOAL STATEMENT:

The goal of the B.S. in Fisheries Science degree program is to educate undergraduate students in fisheries science, with a particular emphasis on the biology, assessment, and management of fish and invertebrate fisheries, in preparation for a career in fisheries and/or the seafood industry in Alaska and elsewhere.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES:

1. Have excellent oral and written communication skills.
2. Obtain knowledge of fishery science, with a particular emphasis on the biology, assessment, and management of fish and invertebrate fisheries.
3. Achieve knowledge of the scientific tools of data collection in fisheries science and demonstrate competence in compiling and reporting of that data.
4. Earn a degree in a timely fashion.
5. Be prepared to compete successfully for admission to M.S. programs in Fisheries or related aquatic science disciplines.
6. Be prepared to compete successfully for entry-level professional career positions in fisheries research or management in Alaska and elsewhere.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES:

1. Compare individual scores of students in similarly-scored evaluations of term papers in the introductory and capstone courses; 80% of students who complete both courses will improve scores. (Objectives 1-3)
2. Track retention rates and rate of graduation within 5 years as evidence of achievement. Eighty percent (80%) of undergraduates will be retained each year, and 50% of juniors will complete degrees in ≤ 3 years. (Objective 4)
3. Eighty percent (80%) of graduates seeking employment in fisheries or aquatic sciences, or admission to a graduate program will succeed within one year of graduation. (Objectives 5-6)
4. Compile and summarize mentor evaluations from the experiential learning internships as evidence of readiness for a professional position. 80% of students will be judged by mentors to have performed at a satisfactory level for an entry-level fisheries professional. (Objective 6)
5. Eighty percent (80%) of graduates will be "satisfied" or "very satisfied" overall, with the education they received in the Fisheries Program at UAF. (All objectives)