



**RHODES UNIVERSITY**  
*Where leaders learn*

### ***Honours in Ichthyology and Fisheries Science***

The Rhodes University Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science (DIFS) is a leading African academic institution supporting the sustainable utilisation and study of fish and fisheries through teaching and training of students, conducting research and providing service support.

The Honours degree, offered by the DIFS, is aimed to produce free-thinking and critical scientists, and to lay a foundation on which they can start to build a career as a leader in industry, government or service provision. The honours course is designed to combine theory with practice, and is comprised of three modules; ichthyology, aquaculture and fisheries management. Specific courses in these modules include; taxonomy, field techniques, impacts of climate change, conservation, local and global trends in aquaculture, aquaculture systems design, nutrition, fish health, integrated aquaculture, stock assessment, fisheries management measures and tools, fisheries governance and the human dimensions of fisheries. There are three field excursions: the first to gain insight and practical experience in field sampling techniques, the second to participate in a community engagement project in partnership with a competitive angling league and the third to obtain insight into operational aquaculture ventures in South Africa. Students will be required to complete a range of tasks through the year including the development of a business plan for a hypothetical aquaculture venture, extended essays, seminars, popular articles, producing documentary films, blogs and a major research project. The examination consists of three theory papers, a practical fish identification and stock assessment paper, an oral defence and the project report.

Our graduates are employed in leading positions in the local and international aquaculture and fisheries industries, government departments, national institutes, museums, conservation authorities, internationally recognized research institutions and offer service provision in numerous other aquatic-environment-related activities.

There are several funding opportunities for prospective students, including the Margret Smith, Rhodes University Postgraduate, Pearson-Young Memorial, Ada and Bertie Levenstein scholarships, as well as grantholder-linked bursaries for suitable candidates with an interest in research on fish physiology, fish behaviour, fish systematics and taxonomy, general fish ecology, and fisheries management.

Applications to the honours course can be submitted through the Rhodes University online system: <https://ross.ru.ac.za/pgadmissions>

For more information on the course or potential bursaries, please contact Prof. Warren Potts ([w.potts@ru.ac.za](mailto:w.potts@ru.ac.za)) or Prof. Peter Britz ([p.britz@ru.ac.za](mailto:p.britz@ru.ac.za)).