

POSITION # F09-018

Faculty Member Contact Information

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Description of the URCA Assistant Position(s)

Number of students requested: **2**
Number of students who will be funded: **1: Only one of the two students for this position will be funded. The professor will determine which student receives funding.**
Will the student(s) earn course credit? Yes No If yes, in which course? **BIOL 493g Research in Ecology**
Location of research/creative activities: **SIUE Campus**

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity:

Students will gather soil samples to assess the abundance of invasive species seeds, conduct population surveys to understand the rate of invasive species population growth, and assist in a University-sponsored project to eradicate invasives from old growth forests on Campus.

Brief description of student responsibilities:

Students will help design a field experiment. They will collect, organize, and enter field data into the computer. Students will work with faculty to analyze data and present research at regional meetings as either a poster or podium talk.

URCA assistant positions are designed to provide students with *research or creative activities* experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals. What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

Outcomes include a refined ability to develop testable hypotheses and design experiments using statistical principles. Students will develop knowledge of forest ecology, and acquire orienteering skills. Analysis and presentation of the data will be computer intensive, allowing students to become proficient using professional statistical packages, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Additional Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours), please indicate all required days and times:

Students may arrange their own hours in coordination with the instructor.

If the location of the research/creative activities is off campus, must students provide their own transportation? Yes ___ No ___ N/A

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

BIOL 121 Plant Systems or equivalent required. BIOL 365 (Ecology) or equivalent is desirable, but not required.

Other requirements:

None

Notes to applicants (i.e., any other information you'd like applicants to know about you or the position before applying):

Students must be physically fit and willing to work outdoors during temperate weather (40-85°) for 2-5 hours at a time.