



Course Guide

Internship Aquaculture and Fisheries

AFI-70424, AFI-70427, AFI-70430, AFI-70433, AFI-70436, AFI-70439

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WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

Internship Aquaculture and Fisheries

General

A student may perform an internship in Aquaculture and Fisheries with a workload of 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, or 39 credits (ECTS) under the supervision of the Aquaculture & Fisheries Group (AFI). The internship provides the student with the opportunity to work outside Wageningen University at a host organisation, e.g. another university, a research organisation, or an industry, thereby broadening his/her scientific horizon. The primary goal of the internship is to subject a student to a potential future academic working environment and to gain work experience. It has a broader scope than a hypothesis-driven research project dealt with in a thesis research project. The host organisation / work should be of sufficiently high academic standard to reflect the desired level of Wageningen graduates.

Learning outcomes

After completion of the internship the student is at least expected to be able to:

- apply knowledge and skills acquired during the course of study;
- execute certain professional skills better
- work independently and with a feeling for the organisation;
- expand your professional network.

In addition to the above-mentioned learning outcomes you should formulate your own more specific, personal learning outcomes in discussion with your supervisor. You discuss how you can exercise and get feedback on your specific, personal learning outcomes (further information under "Internship Report").

Choice and planning of the internship

- The student consults with an AFI teaching staff member on possibilities for internships. The consultation should be done well in advance (preferably at least 12 months) to secure the actual start date of the internship. Alternatively, students are encouraged to find their own host organisation. This host organisation needs to be approved by AFI.
- The host organisation, AFI-supervisor and host supervisor will be identified by an AFI teaching staff member, taking into account the interests/preferences of the student.
- The AFI-supervisor will be the counterpart for the host organisation and as a contact for the student.
- Additional information on the internship can be obtained through the supervisor and/or secretariat.
- Appointments about the content and organisation of the internship are laid down in a so-called internship contract by student and supervisor(s). The candidate submits a completed copy of the contract and a (recent) passport photograph (preferably digital) to the secretariat.

Contents of the internship

The precise contents of the internship will vary with the host organisation, but will at least contain:

- practical work (experiments, field work, data analysis, literature study etc.);
- discussions with the (host) supervisor;
- writing a report and discuss the report with the supervisor;
- giving a presentation about the internship at the AFI group.

Internship report

The Internship report is written in English (in exceptional cases the examiner can allow Dutch). The text of tables and figures must be written in English.

The report consists of the following parts:

1. **Introduction (*compulsory*)**. In the introduction the student describes why he/she wants to perform an internship at this particular host organisation. The questions and framework of the internship project are clearly formulated. For instance: "I wanted to perform my internship at company X, because company X is a world leader in the grow-out of species Y, which is an important commercial species. During my internship project I wanted to learn all aspects of grow-out of species Y, by participating in all practical and managerial processes related to the grow-out. My main question was: 'How can the grow-out be further optimized'"
2. **Description of personal learning outcomes (*compulsory*)**. In addition to the general learning outcomes of the internship, in this part of the report the student describes the aspects that he/she would like to learn specifically. The description should be as concrete and precise as possible and formulated in such a way that they can be evaluated in the self-reflection section of the report. Four to five of such personal learning outcomes should be described.
3. **Description of the host organisation (*compulsory*)**. This part describes the host organisation, its position within the sector of aquaculture and/or fisheries, within the country and the world. It also describes the main research developments within the organisation and their relationship with other current research. The local, regional, and international context and positioning of the host mission, indicating in detail all relevant aspects of the network of competitors/collaborators and influence on local and regional markets/education/research is indicated. This should be supported by relevant literature references, produced by or with the organisation, or in which the organisation is mentioned.
4. **Description and reflection on the (academic) value of the work (*compulsory*)**. This part includes detailed descriptions of the research line in which the student was involved, its background, and the type of work that was performed by the student himself/herself. A general description of the results is also included.
5. **Self-reflection (*compulsory*)**. In this section the student describes if and how the personal learning outcomes were attained. If they were attained it should be indicated how (be precise!, e.g. by using reflection reports on particular situations you experienced). If the learning outcomes were not attained, it should be indicated why not. If a student did not attain all personal learning outcomes this does not, as such, influence the final mark,

if the student functions well within the host organisation. The quality of the self-reflection however, does influence the evaluation of the internship report and the final mark.

6. *Copy of reports for the host organisation (optional)*. The student is free to attach copies of any reports, produced for the host organisation. The report will **not** be judged by AFI.

A draft version of the report, covering the compulsory items will be reviewed by the AFI-supervisor. After approval, the student needs to request the secretariat for an internship number and a front page template. The PDF of the final/approved internship report and 1 printed version needs to be submitted to the secretariat **at least 1 week before the final feedback discussion**. Documents in Word will *not* be accepted.

Presentation

- The student will give a presentation at the AFI group at the end of his/her internship. Student presentations are given during the weekly meetings. The student arranges his/her presentation with the AFI secretariat (office.afi@wur.nl).
- A presentation will take maximally 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes discussion.
- PowerPoint can be used to illustrate the oral presentations. In such cases the student is responsible for the timely uploading of the presentation to the network
- The presentation quality will be given a mark by AFI staff members, following the criteria outlined in the **internship assessment form**.

Evaluation

After submitting the final/approved report and completion of the oral presentation, the candidate's work will be evaluated. The **internship assessment form** lists the criteria used and the weights of the individual criteria to calculate the overall mark. The host supervisor will fill in the professional skills section of the assessment form. The internship report will be evaluated by the AFI-supervisor. The presentation will be evaluated by the AFI staff. Finally, the student will have a feedback discussion on his/her internship with the examiner / supervisor of AFI. The internship report will be the basis of this discussion.

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AFI teaching staff