

MSc Positions: Stream ecosystem response to cumulative land use effects

Motivated M.Sc. students sought for research projects studying stream ecosystem responses to cumulative effects of land use activities as part of Western University's StrEAMS lab. Possible areas of research foci include, but are not limited to: 1) biological assimilative capacity and resilience to nutrient additions, 2) resistance of ecological function to agricultural derived stressors, and; 3) development of novel biological and ecological indicators for assessment of cumulative effects. Student projects will include both observational and experimental field studies as well opportunities to conduct controlled experiments at a state of the art artificial stream facility (Thames River Experimental Streams Systems [TRESS] Centre, <http://mediarelations.uwo.ca/2015/10/16/new-western-led-research-facility-looks-to-protect-our-rivers/>). Potential study areas include southern Ontario and Southern Manitoba, Canada. Opportunities for collaboration and lab exchanges at Environment Canada facilities exist.

Applicants are expected to have a strong background in aquatic ecology, environmental science or related discipline and interest in designing experiments and conducting field and lab work. Ability to work as part of a team is a must.

Highly competitive funding packages are available and a minimum funding of \$18K per year is guaranteed.

The successful candidate will be based at Western University in London, Ontario.

Required qualifications:

- B.Sc. in Ecology, Environmental Science or related discipline
- Meet enrolment requirements of the Dept of Geography at The University of Western Ontario (<http://geography.ssc.uwo.ca/grad>)

Additional desired qualifications:

- Experience conducting aquatic fieldwork
- Experience with ArcGIS and associated software
- Knowledge of univariate and multivariate statistical analyses
- Demonstrated written and oral communication skills
- Valid Driver's license

Please send your CV, a list of two references (along with contact phone and email), unofficial transcript and a cover letter summarizing qualifications and research interests to Dr. Adam Yates at adam.yates@uwo.ca. Start date is September 2016 with potential employment opportunity as a research assistant from May through August 2016. Review of applications will begin January, 2016 and continue until the positions are filled.