

# M.Sc. in Aquatic Biology at Hólar University College

Hólar University College in Iceland offers a two year (120 ECTS) masters program in aquatic biology. The objective of the masters program is to educate scientists for research and education in this diverse and interesting field of study. At graduation the students should also be well prepared to continue their studies at the PhD level.

## The Program

The masters program consists of a large research project (60 – 90 ECTS ) and courses (30 – 60 ECTS). Courses on scientific methodology (20 ECTS) are mandatory, but additional courses can focus on topics related to the specialization of the student. Those interested in applying for the master's program should contact a potential supervisor at the department. The student and the supervisor will work together in creating a study and research plan to be submitted with the application. The application and accompanying documents must be handed in before May 15th for a study that starts in September, and September 15th for a January start. Successful applicants will have to pay a yearly registration fee (50 000 ISK/ about 310 €).

## Faculty

Dr. Helgi Thorarensen, professor. Fish physiology, aquaculture. [helgi@holar.is](mailto:helgi@holar.is)

Dr. Stefán Óli Steingrímsson, associate professor, Behaviour of stream dwelling salmonids and aquaculture [fish.stefan@holar.is](mailto:fish.stefan@holar.is)

Dr. Skúli Skúlason, professor, Evolutionary Ecology. [skuli@holar.is](mailto:skuli@holar.is)

Dr. Bjarni K. Kristjánsson, associate professor Evolutionary ecology of fishes, limnology and groundwater ecology [bjakk@mail.holar.is](mailto:bjakk@mail.holar.is)

Einar Svavarsson, M.Sc, Assistant professor, Fish breeding, [einsi@holar.is](mailto:einsi@holar.is)

Ólafur Sigurgeirsson, M.Sc. Assistant professor, Fish nutrition, aquaculture, [olisig@holar.is](mailto:olisig@holar.is)



## Examples of finished M.Sc. Projects

Territoriality of salmonids in Icelandic rivers

Diversity in feeding behaviour of Arctic charr juveniles

Feeding behaviour of young of the year salmonids in Icelandic rivers

Adaptations of the cardiovascular system of Arctic charr to different environmental conditions

Re-circulation in Arctic charr aquaculture

Potential impacts of ecological factors on macroinvertebrate communities in springs

Belgjaskógur threespine sticklebacks: Mechanisms of ecological divergence in numerous populations over small spatial scale within a geologically young system

Heptic and pituitary growth hormone receptor mRNA expression in farmed Atlantic cod

Growth, oxygen consumption, feed utilization and activity in juvenile turbot under extended, switched and continuous photoperiods.

Effect of light on the growth and maturation rate of Atlantic cod.



## Location

The Department of Aquaculture and Fish Biology, Hólar University College, is situated in Skagafjörður, in the North of Iceland, and is an international centre for research, instruction, and continuing education in aquatic biology, aquaculture, and fish biology. The faculty of the department run an extensive research program.

## Contact

For questions contact Dr. Bjarni K. Kristjánsson, head of the department of Aquaculture and Fish Biology, [bjakk@mail.holar.is](mailto:bjakk@mail.holar.is)

