

Course Outline

Course Title: Clam Beach Survey: Field Methods

Course Code: AQUA 550T

Total Hours: 14 hours

Description: The Clam Beach Survey: Field Methods course presents the field survey requirements for an intertidal clam survey stock assessment for a depuration harvest. Topics include shellfish identification, sampling methods and objectives, randomization methods, confidence intervals, Fisheries and Oceans Canada survey protocols, and data management. Survey principles and techniques are also presented.

Course Objectives:

The student will be able to:

- Design and plan an intertidal beach survey to meet the requirements for depuration harvest;
- Review existing survey protocol, field and laboratory methods;
- Apply simple random sampling and stratified random sampling theory, design and apply these theories in clam surveys;
- Complete an intertidal beach survey according to the requirements of a depuration harvest; and
- Collect length-weight, biomass, species number and age information from the intertidal survey.

Course Modules:

Module 1: Introduction

Module 2: Clams of BC

Module 3: Statistical Sampling

Module 4: Field Survey Methods

Module 5: Data Collection Methods

Module 6: Data Management

Prerequisites: None.

Evaluation: Attendance; classroom, lab and field exercises, and written and practical examinations.