



Graduate Assistantship in Microbial Ecology and Winter Limnology
Michigan Technological University

A Ph.D. student position is available in the Department of Biological Sciences at Michigan Technological University in the lab of Dr. Trista Vick-Majors. Housed in the Great Lakes Research Center at Michigan Tech, the Vick-Majors Lab studies microbial life in the cryosphere and aquatic systems. We use a combination of field and lab-based approaches to understand reciprocal relationships between microorganisms and the environment.

The successful applicant will conduct microbial ecology focused research as part of a larger NSF-funded project aimed at understanding the ecology of inland lakes during winter, along gradients of winter severity and trophic status. Opportunities to develop ideas associated with the larger project would be encouraged as part of the Ph.D. program.

A M.S. degree in ecology, microbiology, or a closely related field, with evidence of research success in the form of a thesis and/or publications is strongly preferred; demonstrated research excellence and experience may substitute for the M.S. degree. Experience with microbial ecology and molecular techniques in addition to at least one the following is desired: aquatic sample processing, bioinformatics, flow cytometry, microbial growth assays, microbe-dissolved organic matter interactions. The ability to work independently as well as with a diverse research group and the ability to organize individual as well as team tasks is necessary. The ideal candidate should communicate effectively, be reliable, well-organized, respectful of others, and interested in contributing to a cohesive lab environment. The preferred start date is the fall semester 2023, with some flexibility for qualified candidates. The position will remain open until filled, with interviews expected to begin in July.

Interested candidates should contact Dr. Trista Vick-Majors (tjvickma@mtu.edu) with the subject line, "Winter Eco PhD Application" and the following items compiled into a single pdf: (1) a one-page cover letter describing your experience and interest in the position, (2) a resume or CV, (3) contact information for at three professional references, and (4) most recent academic transcript (unofficial or official). The Vick-Majors Lab is committed to creating a diverse environment; all qualified applicants will receive consideration, however, only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted. Candidates would be expected to gain acceptance into the Biological Sciences Ph.D. program (<http://www.mtu.edu/biological/graduate/bio-sci/>).