

**Ph.D. Research Assistantship in Integrated Coastal Sciences
Climate Justice, Climate Change Mitigation and Solutions, Coastal Communities**

[The Behavioral Insights for Global Fisheries Research Group](#) at East Carolina University and the [Coastal Studies Institute](#) is seeking to recruit **1 Ph.D. student** into its [Integrated Coastal Sciences](#) *PhD* program to start in Fall 2023. The group applies behavioral economics, sociology, anthropology, and social psychological theories to study processes at play in human interactions with coastal and marine systems. The lab has ongoing studies in the Wider-Caribbean and North Carolina, exploring food security, renewable ocean energy, social networks, decision-making under socio-ecological change, fisheries policy reform, and illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.

Introducing new climate mitigation solutions must prioritize a deliberate approach aligned with climate justice principles to ensure a fair response to climate change, considering the equitable distribution of burdens and benefits, especially for marginalized communities. Efforts should address the existing and potential unequal impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations.

The candidate will work on a funded project with Dr. Wade to look at the social dimensions and perceptions surrounding introducing climate mitigation technologies and solutions in coastal communities in North Carolina. A central objective of this project is to understand how these technologies and solutions contribute to empowering coastal communities or exacerbate existing inequalities. The student will have the opportunity to use some of the data from this project for their dissertation. The student will be encouraged to explore other areas of interest related to this topic.

Minimum Qualifications: Master's degree in anthropology, geography, natural resources management, or related fields. Excellent organization, writing, and communication skills. Experience collecting and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data is a bonus but not required. Knowledge of GIS mapping will be a bonus.

Funding: This assistantship covers a tuition waiver, a 12-month stipend (\$26,500), and health insurance. Funding is guaranteed for the first two years. Funding for the subsequent years is subject to satisfactory progress. The candidate will have a modest budget for conference travel, equipment, and fieldwork.

Students earning a Ph.D. in Integrated Coastal Sciences are expected to produce an interdisciplinary dissertation integrating social and ecological components. Candidates are expected to publish their dissertation research as peer-reviewed journal articles, participate in professional networking opportunities, and make satisfactory progress in required courses.

Interested applicants are invited to send a letter outlining previous research experiences, motivation for pursuing a PhD, research interests, a CV, and names of 2-3 references to Dr. Eric Wade (wadee21@ecu.edu). The **application deadline is January 15, 2023**, but applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Wade earlier expressing interest in the position.

Please email Dr. Wade (wadee21@ecu.edu) with questions about the position, department, or university.