The Marine Education Center at the University’s Gulf Coast Research Laboratory has an exciting opportunity for junior/senior level high school, community college, and USM undergraduate students to participate in a research project that will answer life-history questions of the red drum, *Sciaenops ocellatus*, within the north-central Gulf of Mexico (GOM). This is a unique volunteer opportunity that will provide a great deal of experience in the scientific process. Selected students will be introduced to various hypotheses and experimental designs and will collect, process and analyze data. This project will shed light on the red drum’s reproductive biology, age structure and seasonal movements in the north-central GOM, which will provide useful information for resource managers. Students will gain a better understanding and appreciation of the scientific process through the development of the project’s hypotheses, experimental design, data collection and laboratory analysis. Time commitments will vary based on student availability.

Interested students are encouraged to apply by September 30, 2016. The application and instructions can be found at the following link: [www.gcrl.usm.edu/mec](http://www.gcrl.usm.edu/mec).

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Red Drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*)