Delaware State University’s aquaculture program is the only one of its kind in Delaware. Approximately ten acres of surface water in 34 different non-discharge research and demonstration ponds make up the aquaculture facility. This program is intended for those interested in aquatic management issues such as aquaculture, fisheries science, or related disciplines. Students receive an applied background in natural sciences (particularly aquatic biology, ecology and chemistry) as well as resource management, policy, land use and technical writing. After students graduate they will be able to consider careers at commercial fisheries, private research centers, government agencies and other fisheries management fields. Graduates are prepared to research, plan and implement management, protection and enhancement of fisheries and aquatic resources. The program also provides students with a fundamental science background that is needed to enter a wide variety of graduate programs in biological and natural sciences. Students in this program take courses in ecology, ichthyology, biometrics, soil science, fisheries science and fisheries management. Lastly, students gain hands-on experience while learning the fundamentals of fisheries management.

The Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources is part of the College of Agriculture and Related Sciences at Delaware State University. The department strives to provide students with a challenging, well-rounded education that focuses on utilizing the latest scientific concepts in agriculture and natural resources. Students have the opportunity to work on campus, complete internships at home or abroad, and participate in an array of student organizations and activities. The department is growing and has recently added a research greenhouse, a herbarium an aquaculture pond facility, and the Agriculture Annex to its’ list of resources. Two research farms are part of our agricultural base: Hickory Hill Farm is a 75-acre livestock and forage farm located west of Cheswold, Delaware, and our 192-acre Outreach and Research Farm in Smyrna, DE.

Our small sizes allow for greater faculty/student interactions and hands-on learning opportunities. DSU students have the advantage of learning in the capital city where Delaware’s Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Environmental Control are located. State agencies and surrounding businesses (i.e. Kraft, DuPont, Allen’s, Mountaire, Playtex etc.) offer excellent internship and summer employment opportunities. Upon earning bachelor degrees, nearly 20 percent of our agriculture students seek advanced degrees in specialty areas of their choice. Graduates have continued their education at other prestigious universities including: Virginia Tech, Tuskegee University, The University of Georgia, Pennsylvania State University, North Carolina A&T State University, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and Iowa State University, to name a few.

Salary Ranges
Graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries Management have a wide range of career choices. Graduates usually start in the median range of $30,000 and salaries increase with experience and Graduate studies.

Career Opportunities
Student who graduate with a four-year degree in Fisheries Management have a wide range of career opportunities.

Including:
Fish Hatchery Coordinator
Fish Management Technician
Fisheries Scientist/Biologist
Aquaculturist
Fish/Shrimp Farmer
Conservation Officer
Fisheries Sales
Wetlands Biologist
Natural Resources Manager

Admission
Any student who meets University admission requirements may be accepted directly as a Fisheries Management major into the Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources.