

Welcome to the Graduate Program in Developmental and Reproductive Biology at the University of Hawaii!

Consider the following points prior to the beginning of Fall Semester:

- **Learn about the PIs:** You must pursue a lab rotation, so review the DRB website (http://www3.jabsom.hawaii.edu/Grad_DRB/faculty.html) to find a faculty member with research that interests you. Contact the PI and express your interest in their work. Obtain the CRN# so that you can register for DRB695 (research rotation).
- **Think about funding:** As a graduate student, there are three primary options for funding: a graduate teaching assistantship (TA) a graduate research assistantship (RA) and a graduate assistantship (GA). These positions offer a stipend and a tuition waiver.
 - Option 1: TAship** - Contact Dr. Monika Ward to inquire if any positions are available. If you decide to TA during your time as a M.Sc. student, keep in mind that you will have less time to spend in the lab. However, you will obtain invaluable teaching experience that will be of benefit especially if you want to pursue a career in academia.
 - Option 2: RAship** - Once you decide on a lab in which you want to pursue research, speak with your PI about the possibility of a RAship. If your PI is able to provide you with a RAship, then you will be able to spend a majority of your time in the lab conducting research (and it is expected of you!). A RAship and masters plan A work well together.
 - Option 2: GAship** - Contact Dr. Monika Ward to inquire if any positions are available. This is less common assistantship supporting a range of duties and responsibilities in UH system.
- **Contact Dr. Monika Ward (mward@hawaii.edu) to set up a meeting so that you can establish a class schedule.**
- **Get excited! See you at the new student orientation in mid-August held in the IBR Manoa conference room.** (Date and time will be announced shortly via email)



The stories are in every newspaper: cloning, stem cells, genetic engineering, in vitro fertilization, cancer therapies, organ regeneration, and protocols for prolonging our lifespan. In the past five years, developmental biology has usurped a place formerly occupied by science fiction.

..... these technologies are bringing developmental biology into the social sphere as it never has been before. Students taking developmental biology classes should be able to explain to their classmates (and parents) the science behind the news stories developmental biologists (both current and emergent) need to think about the implications of our research.

**Scott Gilbert, 2003
in the preface to *Developmental Biology*, 7th Edition**

Created by Ms. Carolyn Higuchi (DRB Graduate Student); revised by Monika Ward in May 2018.