



University of the Sea Research Cruise program for 2008/9

<http://www.geosci.usyd.edu.au/uos/>

Senior Students Needed for Research Cruises

Geoscience Australia has invited the *University of the Sea* to participate in three research cruises off Western, onboard the German research vessel the *Somme*. It is an exciting program on the continental slope & marginal plateaus involving swathmapping, seafloor video, sediment coring, seismic reflection, rock dredging, biological sampling, magnetics & gravity.

We need **4 senior students** from Australian Universities for each of these cruises. They will be fully involved in all aspects of the research during the cruise. These projects should appeal to geoscience students interested in environment, petroleum, tectonics, petrology or geophysics. Biology students can also apply.

GA is interested in funding suitable Honours & MSc projects post cruise - a perfect opportunity for new postgraduate students. If you have a specific interest in anything in these areas we can liaise with GA to collect additional data. Otherwise you can have students work on the scheduled data.

Dates:

The three cruises are:

1. Continental slope environments & underlying sedimentary basins offshore from Geraldton to Perth.

Depart Singapore: 22 Oct 2008

Arrive Geraldton: 20 Nov 2008

2. Continental slope environments and underlying sedimentary basins offshore of Ningaloo Reef and the margin of Exmouth Plateau.

Depart Geraldton: 22 Nov 2008

Arrive Fremantle: 18 Dec 2008

3. Origin and structure of the Wallaby & Naturalist marginal plateaus.

Depart Fremantle: 19 Dec 2008

Arrive Indonesia: 17 Jan 2009

### General Course Information:

- Students will conduct research under the guidance of local experts. They will participate in onboard lectures, tutorials & e-learning modules.
- The course will cover aspects of marine geology, oceanography and biology.

### Instructors:

- Instructors & research scientists will be from Geoscience Australia & several different research institutions, including University of Sydney.

### Costs:

- The *University of the Sea* will endeavour to pay most costs associated with transport to & from the ship & accommodation while in transit. Accommodation & living expenses during the cruises will also be covered.
- Passports, visas, medical examinations, travel insurance & incidental charges are the responsibility of individual applicants.

### Eligibility:

- Students must be enrolled in a University to be eligible & should be studying at Honours or Postgraduate level. Students from all Universities, not just the [partnership institutions](#), are invited to apply.
- We will be seeking applications from Australia, the Pacific Nations, India & Asia.
- There will be a limited number of successful applicants from each country.

### Other Requirements:

- Participants will be expected to collaborate with their research partners over the year following the cruise, in order to produce one or more research papers.
- Participants must provide a comprehensive report on completion of the cruise.
- Short-listed applicants will be required to undergo a medical examination before final selection
- Applicants must provide full details of their own insurance when selected for the cruise.
- Applicants must organise their own passports & any necessary visas.
- Passports must have a minimum of 12 months before expiry from the commencement of the cruise.
- Information on visas can be found on the <http://www.nationalvisas.com.au/>

For further information, please contact Dr Michelle Blewitt ([uniofthesea.admin@usyd.edu.au](mailto:uniofthesea.admin@usyd.edu.au))

Full descriptions of the cruise plan & application forms will be posted on the *University of the Sea* website at <http://www.geosci.usyd.edu.au/uos/> by the end of June 2008.