

Dean's Colloquium
Dr. Tunde Adebola, Assistant Professor
Department of Biological Sciences, Hampton University



When: Wednesday, March 3, 2023

Where: Turner 129

Time: 3:00 – 3:20 pm, Q&A: 10 min

Title: Emerging Perspectives: Coupling Social and Ecological Models to Explore Impacts of Fishing in Coastal Ecosystems

Abstract: Achieving sustainable use of aquatic living resources is a key challenge facing humanity today. Several ecological models have been developed to address questions about management and use of aquatic living resources, but these models often do not adequately capture human dimensions of natural resource management; making it necessary to direct more attention to human aspects of coastal fisheries such as in the Chesapeake Bay. Coupled human environmental modeling of ecosystems can enable us to better understand fleet behavior and devise better approaches to reducing anthropogenic impacts on the Bay ecosystem. Humans impact Chesapeake Bay (either directly or indirectly) by reducing water quality, increasing wildlife disease, applying harvest pressures, and influencing habitat integrity. In our proposed project, we aim to extend the current Chesapeake Bay Fisheries Ecosystem Model (CBFEM) developed by NOAA partners to include social information so we can more directly verify human impacts on shellfishes and other living aquatic resources of Chesapeake Bay.

Bio: Dr. Tunde Adebola is a fish ecologist in the Department of Biological Sciences who studies anthropogenic impacts on coastal ecosystems. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Fisheries from Lagos State University, Nigeria and a Master of Science in Marine Estuarine and Environmental Science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, USA. During his doctoral education at George Mason University where he obtained his PhD in Environmental Science and Public Policy, he developed an Ecopath with Ecosim model and with this model examined ecosystem consequences of spatial redistribution of fishing effort in nearshore waters of the Nigerian coastal system. Tunde has since published several papers in ecosystem and spatial ecology. He currently works as an Assistant Professor of Biology at Hampton University where he also previously worked as a postdoctoral researcher (MMHI), and research professor (Marine and Env Sci). He lives in the Hampton Roads with his wife and three children.