

# Do you want a career in filmmaking, science writing, or science communication?

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Do you want a career in natural history filmmaking, science writing, or bringing science to society?

Whether your interest is in making documentaries, digital publishing, multimedia and digital apps, museum exhibitions or art installations, the Centre for Science Communication has something for you.

The Centre launched its Postgraduate Diploma in Natural History Filmmaking in 2001, and it now offers a range of programmes including: PhD, Certificate in Science Communication, Postgraduate Diploma in Science Communication, Masters in Applied Science in Science Communication and Masters in Science Communication.

“The programme is unique in a number of ways”, says Fabien Medveky, Professor in Science Communication. “Firstly, it is one of the largest such programmes in the world with around 50 Masters students at any given time. Importantly, most of them work, play, hang out and generally spend most of their time with others from the Centre, which creates an incredible sense of community and camaraderie.”

“Secondly, the course has both a creative component and an academic component. Our Masters students write a thesis and produce a creative output – a book, a film, an exhibit, a website or suchlike. So contrary to many other purely academic courses, our students learn to ‘do’ science communication, but unlike many practitioner-focused professional development courses, our students also learn to think about it... they learn to think through what they do, so they can do it better. That’s why this is arguably the premium science communication programme in the world.”

Lecturers are industry experts in filmmaking, science writing, and communication. Students learn from seasoned professionals, who have extensive industry contacts.

The Centre works closely with **NHNZ**, a pre-eminent natural documentary making company, based in Dunedin. **NHNZ** is the second largest private documentary making company in the world, and is world renowned for its ground-breaking factual television about people, nature, adventure, history and science for global broadcasters. Students get

the opportunity to be in this environment, and learn from NHNZ staff, who are at the forefront of their field.

One of the outstanding success stories from the programme is PhD student Erika Szymanski. While researching how the science of wine is being communicated, she has recently won the very prestigious **Born Digital Wine Award for Best Journalistic Wine Story**. And, adds Fabien, “while less than two years into her PhD, she already has two academic papers accepted - a good example of what our students do. Great public discourse through award winning journalism, and brilliant academic work in top tier journals.”

Applications for PhD study are accepted all year round, and applications for other postgraduate courses are still open.

**[Read more about the Centre for Science Communication here](#)**

**[View a sample of Science Communication graduates and read what they are doing now](#)**

**[Watch a three minute video about students' work](#)**

**[Application information is available here](#)**

**The ScienceTeller Festival** is run by the Centre, as well as an annual showcase of student films, which is held at the Regent Theatre. **You can view the trailer [here](#)** for this year's film premiere at the Regent Theatre.

