SCIENCE POLICY & COMMUNICATION AT FLINDERS

The Bachelor of Science (Science Policy and Communication) is designed for those who enjoy science and who aspire to improve governments, corporations and communities by helping them to understand the science that underpins their decisions. If you’d like to both practise science and shape the future by advocating for science in the public sector and government, this is the course for you.

The course prepares you for a career anywhere that science is used in decision making. All the pathways open to science graduates will be open to you, but you will also learn about how the real-world practice of science is translated into the topical science of public debate, as well as the connection between science and decision-making in government, industry and charities.

It will appeal to those who have an interest in the power of science to shape the world and to respond to challenges in a range of areas: from energy and nuclear power economics to immunisation policy and equity and equality in science.

Science holds the key to solving many of the world’s problems, and ethical policy development is the door through which these discoveries must pass if they are to be transformed into outcomes for society. Science policy and communication is geared towards developing an understanding of the nature of science, of the practice and subtleties of communicating science, and of the ways in which these disciplines interact with public and private decision-making.

STUDY PROGRAM

In the Bachelor of Science (Science Policy and Communication) you will study a major in a science discipline (eg environment, biology, chemistry and physics) and learn about the broader context of science in society. This includes topics about the nature of science, how science is communicated and how science and scientists impact public and government attitudes towards science.

You will learn the scientific basis of how the ways in which we communicate can influence other people’s thinking and decision making. In addition, you will analyse topical issues such as climate change, medical research, energy policy and drug policy, and look at other important aspects such as funding for science, private sector interests and international scientific organisations and movements.

Throughout the course you will hear from guest speakers from industry, government, the not-for-profit sector and the media, as well as scientists renowned for public communication and advocacy. Tutorials help to facilitate lively discussion, providing you with a challenging yet supportive environment to engage with the concepts.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Some potential occupations for graduates include scientist, science communicator, government officer, government advisor, consultant, and numerous roles in innovative companies.

Potential employers include government, scientific organisations, professional bodies, advocacy groups, and specialist areas such as water or energy supply.

For more information on careers services and potential career opportunities go to: flinders.edu.au/careers

FURTHER STUDY

Further study options include Master of Science (research) and PhD (research).
THIS COURSE...

WILL APPEAL TO STUDENTS WHO ENJOY SCIENCE AND ASPIRE TO IMPROVE SOCIETY BY HELPING PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND THE SCIENCE THAT UNDERPINS DECISION-MAKING

IS A UNIQUE PROGRAM IN AUSTRALIA

ALLOWS YOU TO UNDERTAKE A MAJOR IN SCIENCE TO COMPLEMENT YOUR POLICY AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES

WILL PRODUCE SCIENCE GRADUATES WITH A DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING IN THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF SCIENCE POLICY AND COMMUNICATION REQUIRED TO BE CHANGE-AGENTS IN BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNITY