

CAREER PROFILES:

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AN OVERVIEW OF YOUR JOB:

My job has two parts:

- I lecture to university students about marine geosciences. This involved lecturing in large classrooms, small group sessions, practical's in the geography laboratories and fieldwork both along the coast or offshore.
- I research together with my research group, the Earth and Ocean Lab. Here we study the Planet and its ocean, typically on cold water coral reefs, new seafloor mapping methods, coastal mapping and virtual reality of remote settings.

WHERE ARE YOU USUALLY BASED?



My day varies quite a lot. I tend to work in the office doing research or preparing for classes. Other than that, I can be in the field/offshore collecting data to create seafloor maps.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PART OF YOUR JOB?

My favourite part of the job is mapping somewhere new for the first time. There's always something new to be learned from maps of the ocean. The most rewarding part of the job is then seeing others fall in love with this too.

A TYPICAL DAY...

There is no 'typical' working day for me. For example, today, I have been working in the office to meet with research partners about mapping the Belizean coastline. Tomorrow I will be teaching about coastal protection and on Thursday I will be going to a quarry with a drone to map out the geological structures within it. The only thing that stays the same is the amount of coffee I drink – lots!

WHAT'S THE MOST CHALLENGING PART OF YOUR JOB?

Emails. Too many.
All day. Everyday.



HOW DID YOU GET INTO THIS CAREER?

I just kept doing what I loved – mapping the ocean and really the path laid itself before me.



WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO A YOUNG PERSON INTERESTED IN THIS CAREER PATH?

I wasn't the top student in my class in school. I was shy and didn't know what I wanted to do after school. I simply did what I enjoy (at University) and things fell into place. Don't put too much pressure on yourself, everything will work out.



WHAT WORK EXPERIENCE, QUALIFICATIONS OR TRAINING WOULD YOU RECOMMEND FOR GETTING INTO THIS CAREER?

To work as a lecturer or researcher, you typically need a PhD. To do that, you should go to college and study something you love.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN IN THIS LINE OF WORK?

I have been working in marine related work for the past 10 years or so.



BESIDES FORMAL QUALIFICATIONS, WHAT SKILLS OR TRAITS ARE MOST USEFUL FOR YOUR TYPE OF WORK?

We all do research everyday – asking questions, being curious and doing things we don't already know the answer to – purely out of interest. If you are a naturally curious and motivated person, then you will be suited to research. Likewise, if you do research and love to help others, then you will love being a lecturer – teaching the next generation about the most up-to-date scientific methods and watching them develop a passion just as you once did.

