

Careers for Screen and Cultural Studies Majors

There are a great many career fields which build on studies in Media and Communications. In exploring options, reflect on the skills you have developed through your major, the ones you prefer using and the careers which are most strongly related.

What skills and knowledge do I develop by studying Screen and Cultural Studies?

- an understanding of Hollywood and global entertainment cultures,
- the ability to analyse and interpret screen and media texts,
- an advanced knowledge of methods of critical analysis,
- visual and digital literacy across a range of media forms,
- an understanding of lifestyle and commodity cultures,
- the ability to investigate and articulate issues surrounding the impact of globalization and migration,
- knowledge of screen histories, cultural industries, cultural policy,
- advanced written and visual communication skills.

What careers build on these skills and knowledge?

The table below lists a range of careers which make use of studies in Screen and Cultural Studies. The list is not definitive – depending on your own interests and experiences, there may well be other ways to build on your major.

More information on many of these career areas is available at:

http://careers.unimelb.edu.au/student/online_career_tools/exploring_your_options
(Career Exploration - Career Links by Degree – Arts)

Next Steps

The table also provides some information about ‘next steps’ ie what you might need to do to start a career in the particular field, specifically whether graduate study is required or whether immediate employment is possible.

There are two employment types for Bachelor graduates:

- General employment positions suitable for new graduates
- Graduate Employment Programs

Graduate Employment Programs are offered by some employers – generally large commercial organisations and government. Graduate Employment Program positions are jobs that include a substantial component of training and development. Recruitment for these programs takes place early in the year (around March-May). Final year tertiary students and recent grads can apply. For some of the career areas discussed, Graduate Employment programs are available.

For more information on Graduate Employment Programs:

http://careers.unimelb.edu.au/student/find_a_job/professional_and_graduate_work

Career field	Employment setting	Next Steps: Employment and/or graduate study
Policy work – Arts and culture related	Government/Public Service eg Arts Victoria	GEPs – VPA and APS departments Other bodies – Honours or relevant graduate study
Journalism – Arts and culture related	Media organisations – television, radio, online and print	Graduate study – Journalism Cadetships – prospects enhanced by relevant work experience eg Arts Internship subject
Other film and television eg production, broadcasting, post-production – distribution, reviewing	Film production, distribution and exhibition organisations, media	Graduate study eg Master of Arts and Cultural management – Moving Image Specialisation
Arts management eg venue administration, festival planning, artist management	Performing arts organisations, performing arts companies, theatre venues.....	Career-entry possible post BA depending on experience, and/or Graduate study – Arts Management
Curating, education and public programs	Museums including film specific eg ACMI, National Film and Sound Archive	Graduate study eg Master of Arts and Cultural management – Moving Image Specialisation
Public Relations and Communications	Public Relations consultancies 'In-house' communications (government, corporate, NGOs)	Career entry possible with BA (eg Communications Assistant), prospects enhanced significantly by relevant work experience eg Arts Internship subject Graduate study – public relations, communications
Advertising and Marketing	Agencies – marketing, advertising 'In-house' marketing departments	Career-entry possible with BA (eg Advertising Account Coordinator) - prospects enhanced significantly by relevant work experience eg Arts Internship subject, commerce breadth Graduate study – advertising, marketing
Information	Libraries, museums,	Graduate study – Archives,

Management/Archives	universities, arts organisations eg National Film and Sound Archive	Information Management/Librarianship
Teaching/ Educating	Secondary schools Universities	Graduate study – Teaching (requires studies to cover 2 ‘learning areas’ – refer to guidelines – Master of teaching site) <i>Note: teaching ‘Media’ requires some production skills which can be acquired through short courses</i> Graduate research study path – Honours/Masters/PhD
Research (academic)	Universities, research institutes	Graduate research study – Honours/Masters/PhD (Research Assistant roles require Honours minimum)

What other careers could I consider?

Media and Communications majors may also pursue careers which are not directly related to the study of Media and Communications but make use of transferable skills and/or pick up on other interests.

- **Careers via graduate study** – many careers are available via graduate study which is accessible to Bachelor of Arts graduates; these include both Arts-related careers eg Journalism, Information Management/Librarianship, International Development; and careers in more diverse fields such as Urban Planning, Nursing, Information Systems, Accounting.
- **Careers via Graduate Employment Programs** - in addition to government, some other large organisations have programs open to all disciplines where graduates are generally recruited for general management careers. Some management consultancies also consider applicants from all disciplines. Opportunities are advertised (generally early each year) on *Careers Online*, and graduate recruitment sites eg Graduate Opportunities, GradConnection.

Where can I find out more?

Further information on career areas:

http://careers.unimelb.edu.au/student/online_career_tools/exploring_your_options
(Career Exploration - Career Links by Degree – Arts)

Other discussions about what you can do with a major in Media and Communications:

- University of Tennessee <http://whatcanidowiththismajor.com/major/majors/>
- University of Victoria, Wellington, New Zealand:
www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/careers/Resources/career_publications/career_view/index.aspx

Professional Associations:

http://careers.unimelb.edu.au/student/online_career_tools/exploring_your_options
(Career Exploration – Professional Associations by Degree - Arts)

Graduate study at University of Melbourne:

<http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/courses/graduate>
<http://graduate.arts.unimelb.edu.au/>
<http://government.unimelb.edu.au/>

Researching courses which are not offered at Melbourne: www.myfuture.edu.au