

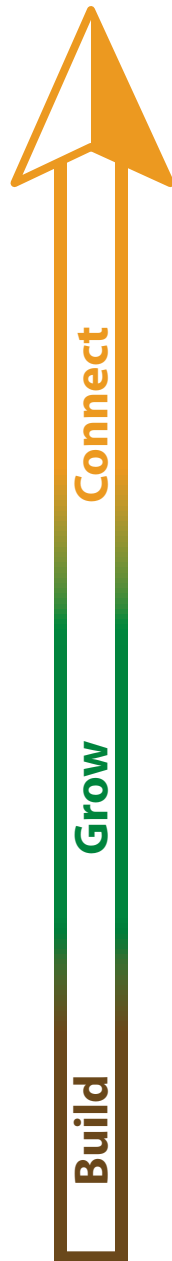


This career compass provides options, tips, suggestions, and strategies for how a student can obtain critical skills, experiences, and competencies in order to launch their geoscience career based on their academic standing. The content herein is based on data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, interviews with personnel in the occupation, and research on available student opportunities.

Job Summary

Science journalists research, report, write, and edit news and features, and convey that information to various audiences, often using a variety of multimedia. They create content for general and trade publications. They need to understand complex scientific information and translate it into a form that is easily understood. They find stories, interview sources, and then craft stories for publication in a newspaper, magazine, wire service, website, television or radio station, or other news outlets.

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Undergraduate

- Clubs, student government, or science or journalism professional societies
- Debate club, volunteer as tour guide at local nature center, museum, or tourist attraction
- Professional society webinars, workshops, and conference events related to science communication
- Hone skills through courses and conference presentations
- University newspaper or department newsletter articles about famous alumni or event or program, University press office
- Write a blog or create a website to showcase your writing samples, create videos, podcasts, or radio interviews
- Science communication events, activities, and technical sessions at science or science journalism conference
- Science writing internships at scientific and professional societies, nonprofits, for profit companies, news outlets, museums, science centers, media companies
- American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Diverse Voices in Science Journalism
- AAAS Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows program
- National Association of Science Writers (NASW) travel fellowships
- Annual Santa Fe workshop
- Degree in science major or journalism or English or communications
- Courses with extensive writing (fiction and nonfiction) and journalism if pursuing science major; extensive science courses if not pursuing a science major
- Speech or science communication courses, volunteer by writing for the school newspaper or volunteering in the press office
- Write senior thesis if pursuing a science major

Graduate/Master's or Ph.D./Post-doc

- Present at conference, participate in local science communication events like science on tap
- Publish research, communicate research for a lay audience, create a video or podcast about the work
- Departmental committee, clubs, student government, or geoscience professional societies
- Debate club, volunteer as tour guide at local nature center, museum, or tourist attraction, attend science writing organization events, writing for a department or university press office
- Council for the Advancement of Science Writing graduate school fellowships
- Degree in a science discipline, science writing, or journalism
- Master's thesis related to your science research
- Write documentation for commonly performed tasks in a laboratory or office if science major, write blogs about your research, volunteer in the university's press office
- Speech or science communication courses, news writing or journalism classes if science major

