

> Case Study

Dr Nicholas Weise

STEM WORKS

Cogent skills
for science industries



Profile:

Age: 27

Location:
Manchester, UK

Company: Manchester
Institute of Biotechnology

Job: Lecturer

My job – what I do

I spend part of my time working in a lab coming up with new ways of making chemicals using **biological** parts, such as **enzymes** and bacteria. I also do a lot of teaching at the University of Manchester, particularly to chemistry students learning about biology and biochemistry.

My qualifications

General GCSEs, Science A-Levels, Degrees in **Molecular Biology** and Chemistry.

How I got into science

I joined the University of Manchester in 2009 to study Molecular Biology and enjoyed it so much that I chose to stay and do a research degree. During this I became more involved in teaching and was offered a job within the university to combine this with continuing my work in the lab.

What I do on a typical day

My day is very flexible to allow me to fit research and **outreach** events around teaching. I normally choose to come into work at about 8am and try to get anything I need to do in the lab done by lunch time. This means I can spend my afternoon doing any reading or writing and I can usually leave by 4pm. Some days I have meetings organised or teaching to do, which could be at any time between 9am and 4pm. Occasionally I will work at the weekend to meet young people and the general public to talk about science (science communication). If I work at the weekend, I can normally take time off during the week instead.

Best 3 things about my job

1. Knowing science and telling other people about it like my colleagues, students and the public.
2. Not being sat in an office all day as I move between the lab and teaching rooms.
3. Having the freedom to choose how to do things both in the lab and while teaching.

The biggest science inspiration

Going to the Natural History Museum in London as a child.

In the future

I have recently become a Lecturer, which is what I wanted to do, so I'd like to continue combining research, teaching and science communication.

Why should young people consider a career in science?

If you are interested in science there are so many different jobs you can go into.

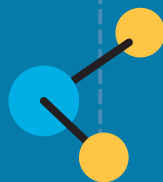
Jargon Buster

Biological/biology - is the study of life and the changes that take place with and around all living things.

Enzymes - help cells grow and reproduce by causing chemical reactions. Enzymes help the cells to build things or take things apart as needed.

Molecular Biology - is concerned with the activity between molecules in the various parts of a cell. Eg. The interactions between DNA and proteins.

Outreach - is the word companies and universities use to describe how they communicate with schools and the general public. eg. Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Ambassadors will visit schools to share their experience of what it's like to have a job in science.



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