

# 102-SC Master of Arts (Science, Communication and Society)

<b>Year and Campus:</b>	2009
<b>Fees Information:</b>	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, <a href="http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees">http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees</a>
<b>Level:</b>	Graduate/Postgraduate
<b>Duration &amp; Credit Points:</b>	
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<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Arts &amp; Music Student Centre</b> ( <a href="http://www.arts.unimelb.edu.au/about/contact.html">http://www.arts.unimelb.edu.au/about/contact.html</a> ) <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:arts-gradstudies@unimelb.edu.au">arts-gradstudies@unimelb.edu.au</a> ( <a href="mailto:arts-gradstudies@unimelb.edu.au">mailto:arts-gradstudies@unimelb.edu.au</a> )
<b>Course Overview:</b>	The Master of Arts (Science, Communication and Society) provides students with theoretical and practical skills in science communication and an advanced understanding of the social, ethical, political and human dimensions of public and community responses to science and technology. It is designed specifically for recent graduates and professionals who seek employment, or are employed, in areas of media, law, research, business or the public sector where the communication of scientific and technical knowledge is an essential component of their work. Graduate should be qualified to work as science communicators/knowledge brokers in diverse areas of employment. Students who discontinue the course after completing 50 points of History & Philosophy subjects may be eligible for the award of postgraduate certificate. Students who discontinue the course after completing 100 points of History & Philosophy subjects (including the thesis) may be eligible for the award of postgraduate diploma.
<b>Objectives:</b>	<p><b>Students who successfully complete the MA (Science, Communication and Society) should:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># demonstrate an understanding of the theory and practice of communication and the role of the media;</li> <li># demonstrate theoretical and practical competence in the use of media and communication across cultures of expertise;</li> <li># engage in applied study and sustained analysis of aspects of communicating science and technology in different media and across cultural divides;</li> <li># demonstrate an informed awareness of the social, political and human dimensions involved in communication scientific and technical knowledge;</li> <li># demonstrate critical understanding of the public understanding of science, technology and risk;</li> <li># demonstrate an understanding of lay critiques, anxieties and resistance to scientific innovation and development;</li> <li># demonstrate an understanding of philosophical approaches to science's claims to truth, authority and certainty</li> </ul>
<b>Course Structure &amp; Available Subjects:</b>	<p><b>Duration: 1 or 2 years full-time / up to 4 years part-time</b></p> <p><b>100 point program - 100 points at 500-level:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># One compulsory subject</li> <li># Three optional HPS subjects at 500-level (compulsory requirement)</li> <li># Four additional optional subjects at 500-level</li> </ul> <p><b>150 point program - Up to 50 points at 400-level and at least 100 points at 500-level:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># One compulsory subject</li> <li># Three optional HPS subjects (compulsory requirement)</li> <li># Eight additional optional subjects</li> <li># Seven of the Eleven optional subjects must be at 500-level</li> </ul> <p><b>200 point program - Up to 100 points at 400-level and at least 100 points at 500-level:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li># One compulsory subject</li> <li># Three optional HPS subjects (compulsory requirement)</li> </ul>

- # Twelve additional optional subjects
- # Seven of the Fifteen optional subjects must be at 500-level

**Subject Options:****Compulsory subject**

Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:
136-545 Science and its Publics	Semester 1	12.500

**Optional subjects**  
**Asian Studies**

Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:
110-499 Asian Health and Development	Not offered 2009	12.500

**History and Philosophy of Science & Social Theory**

Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:
136-527 Ecology and Environmentalism	Semester 1	12.500
136-529 HPS Thesis	Semester 1, Semester 2	37.500
136-542 Practicum	Semester 1, Semester 2	25.000
136-442 Directed Study	Semester 1, Semester 2	12.500
136-509 Science and Ideology in the 20th Century	Semester 1	12.500
136-528 Medicine and Culture	Semester 2	12.500
136-536 Scientific Realism and Anti-Realism	Semester 2	12.500
136-544 Beyond the Spin: Technoscientific Failure	Semester 2	12.500
136-506 Pacific History, Environment & Science	Not offered 2009	12.500
136-540 Science, Conflict and Globalisation	Not offered 2009	12.500

**Philosophy**

Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:
161-507 Ethical Theory and Practice	Semester 1	12.500
161-521 Issues in Professional & Applied Ethics	Semester 2	12.500

**Media & Communications**

Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:
100-415 Journalism: Conflict and Society	Semester 1	12.500
100-416 Researching Audiences and Reception	Semester 1	12.500
100-571 Media Convergence and Digital Culture	Semester 1	12.500
100-577 Strategic Political Communication	Semester 1	25.000
100-574 Global Crisis Reporting	Semester 1	25.000
100-419 Public Relations and Corporate Power	Semester 2	12.500
100-420 Journalism: Practice and Theory	Semester 2	12.500

	100-570 Global Media: Theory and Research	Semester 2	25.000
	<b>Editing &amp; Publishing</b>		
	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Study Period Commencement:</b>	<b>Credit Points:</b>
	106-475 Business and Professional Communications	Semester 1	12.500
	106-516 Advanced Editing for Digital Media	Semester 1	12.500
	106-518 Print Production and Design	Semester 1	12.500
	106-473 Editorial English	Semester 1, Semester 2	12.500
	106-476 Technical Writing and Editing	Semester 2	12.500
	106-477 Writing and Editing for Digital Media	Semester 2	12.500
<b>Entry Requirements:</b>	<p>1. The Selection Committee will evaluate the applicant's ability to pursue successfully the course using the following criteria -</p> <p>For the 200 point program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an undergraduate degree in a cognate discipline with a grade average of at least H2B (70%) in the relevant subjects, or equivalent.</li> </ul> <p>For the 150 point program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an undergraduate degree in a cognate discipline with a grade average of at least H2B (70%) in the relevant subjects and at least one year of full time documented relevant work experience, or equivalent.</li> </ul> <p>For the 100 point program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an honours degree in a cognate discipline with at least a H2B (70%), or equivalent; or</li> <li>• an undergraduate degree in a cognate discipline with a grade average of at least H2B (70%) in the relevant subjects and at least two years of full time documented relevant work experience, or equivalent.</li> </ul> <p>2. The Selection Committee may conduct interviews or tests and may call for referee reports and employer references to elucidate any of the matters referred to above.</p> <p><b>Exit Awards</b></p> <p>Students who complete 136-501: HPS Honours Thesis as well as 50 points of HPS (136-prefix) subjects from the list above but do not wish to continue into year two of the 200-point program may be eligible for the exit award of Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (History and Philosophy of Science).</p> <p>Students who wish to exit the program after completing 50 points of HPS subjects from the list above may be eligible for the exit award of Postgraduate Certificate in Arts (History and Philosophy of Science).</p>		
<b>Core Participation Requirements:</b>	<p>&lt;p&gt;For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Student Support and Engagement Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Overview, Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Generic Skills sections of this entry.&lt;/p&gt; &lt;p&gt;It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study, and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact on meeting the requirements of this subject are encouraged to discuss this matter with a Faculty Student Adviser and Student Equity and Disability Support: &lt;a href="http://services.unimelb.edu.au/disability"&gt;http://services.unimelb.edu.au/disability&lt;/a&gt;&lt;/p&gt;</p>		
<b>Links to further information:</b>	http://www.hps.unimelb.edu.au/		