DR NIKHIL MISTRY

RESEARCH FELLOW IN UNDER WATER ACOUSTICS

OCEANOGRAPHY

"I am most proud of running a comedy club where researchers talk about their academic work and life through stand-up comedy."

Academic profile

Degree

MEng Acoustical Engineering

Post grad

PhD Acoustical Engineering

Qualification/achievement you are most proud of

Running a comedy club

Subjects you enjoyed at school

Maths and Spanish

Career Summary

I stumbled upon acoustics at the university (Institute of Sound & Vibration Research), during an open day visit. I went to see the Civil Engineering department, but ended up falling in love with Acoustical Engineering. I have been able to work in cancer research, marine mammal studies, designing concert halls, developing sonar, and designing quieter neighbourhoods, as well as travelling all over the world to work and present my research. Sound and vibration are present in SO MANY parts of our lives and I have been lucky enough to work in as many of those industries as possible. On top of it all, I get to visit schools and talk about my passion, as well as run events to engage the public too.

What inspired you?

At school, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. I knew that I was interested in how stuff works and I also knew that I wanted to do something 'different'. My A levels were in Maths, Physics, English Literature and Spanish. I did this mix because I thought it would be good to have a spread of 'everything'. In my second year of A levels, it became clear that I wanted a job in science.

Describe your job

Did you know .....

When a bubble collapses underwater (known as cavitation), it can generate temperatures greater that 5000 degrees Kelvin. The snapping shrimp uses this to stun their prey!

Top tip

Think about what is interesting to you, give it everything you've got and DON'T be afraid to ask for opportunities - the key is to speak to everyone and they will definitely help if they can see you are keen.

Best thing about my job

Working with people in the most varied mix of industries and in as many countries as possible, from working in environmental noise pollution in Australia, to presenting my sonar invention in Hawaii

Find out more

- @nikhil.mistry
- @ISVRsouthampton
- @nikhil_mistry

Watch the video: