

ScienceFilm

training workshops



modern communication for modern science

www.sciencefilm.org

The ScienceFilm Mission

At ScienceFilm, our mission is to train scientists, conservationists, NGO's, and nature enthusiasts to communicate science and natural history by telling compelling stories and creating professional-quality videos. We offer short immersion workshops in science and natural history filmmaking. We can teach you the storytelling and technical skills you need to craft visual narratives, no experience necessary.

Gone are the days when the last step of the research process was publishing your work in a peer-reviewed academic journal. It is now so important to get your story out to a broader audience. Video is the most effective way to communicate your message.

Tell your story! Come to one of our workshops (see www.sciencefilm.org for upcoming events), or contact us about bringing ScienceFilm to your area.

“We help you get your research out of the Ivory Tower, and onto YouTube”

Select ScienceFilm Workshops

2012

Environment Yukon University of Alaska Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre University of Utah Duke Marine Laboratory

2011

University of Utah Quest University Canada
University of Puerto Rico Friday Harbor Laboratories

2010

Biodiversity Research Centre, University of British Columbia
Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre Bodega Marine Laboratory

2009

Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre University of Washington
Friday Harbor Laboratories



“This program reinvigorated my current work and helped me realize how important storytelling is. It’s *the* best value for money that I’ve ever experienced for a course”



The ScienceFilm Team



Jeff Morales is a producer, director, and cinematographer, and has brought the stories of a wide range of wildlife and human subjects to National Geographic, Discovery, Animal Planet, The Nature Conservancy and The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Jeff's affiliation with National Geographic Television dates back to 1992; as a staff producer in the Natural History Unit, his films garnered four National Emmy awards and ten National Emmy nominations. Before picking up a film camera, the native Californian and Notre Dame graduate supported himself as a first mate on a sailing yacht, street musician, naturalist and bio-technician. Jeff is a co-founder of ScienceFilm.

Colin Bates is an ecologist, photographer, videographer, musician, and polar expedition guide. Colin earned his Ph.D. in Botany, and is now a Professor of Life Sciences at Quest University Canada and an Adjunct Professor of Botany at the University of British Columbia. Colin is an ambitious science communicator and a competent and creative filmmaker. He embraced the filmmaking process, from beginning to end, as the head videographer for Peregrine Adventures (now Quark Expeditions), producing videos during over 40 trips to Antarctica and the Canadian Arctic. Colin is an accomplished photographer and audio engineer and producer. Colin is a co-founder of ScienceFilm.



Salvatore Vecchio is a Senior Editor for National Geographic Television and Film. His films have garnered multiple Emmys and he has personally been nominated three times for an Emmy in the Craft of Editing. In addition to his editorial work, Salvatore is a Voice Over artist and a member of AFTRA/SAG, and he has narrated over a hundred films for National Geographic's Domestic and International Channels. Prior to joining NGTF, Salvatore was a freelance editor, cutting films for the Discovery Channel, Smithsonian Networks, and other independent producers.

John Benam is a producer and Emmy Award-winning cinematographer. John has contributed to some of National Geographic's most high profile programming, including the epic series "Great Migrations". Whether climbing 180 feet up the giant trees of Borneo, braving the wilds of Sudan, scouring the Alaskan tundra or paddling the swollen Amazon, John has travelled far and wide to cover some of the world's greatest spectacles. In 2009, John founded his own production company, Benam Films, Inc. John is a master of high-speed, high definition cinematography.



Editor and producer **Chun-Wei Yi** has worked for a variety of broadcasters, non-profits and corporations, including National Geographic, PBS, The Nature Conservancy, and Goldman Sachs. He was the Senior Editor on the Showtime Networks team that launched the Smithsonian Channel in 2007 and earned two Emmy nominations and an Emmy Award in its first year of broadcast. Chun-Wei was the Associate Producer on a recent National Geographic expedition to Vietnam in search of venomous snakes.

Emmy Award-winning cinematographer **Mark Emery** has worked with Navy Seals, IMAX, BBC, PBS, National Geographic and the Discovery Channel. Mark spends his summers in King Salmon, Alaska, filming bears, salmon, wolves, caribou and moose. Each winter he returns to Florida to film and photograph alligators, manatees and other wildlife in and around the clear springs near his home in Ocala. A talented musician and composer, he has written and performed scores for over 250 television shows and commercials.



Robert Wooten is a seasoned filmmaking veteran with over 20 years experience behind the camera, shooting action, adventure, wildlife, sports, and documentaries. He has traveled the world capturing amazing footage for National Geographic, Discovery, HBO, Fox, ESPN, CBS, and CNN. In addition to being a skilled storyteller and a gifted field technician, he is a talented and accomplished editor in the commercial and documentary field.

Sample *7-day Itinerary

Sunday

5:00pm Arrival
6:00-6:45pm Dinner
7:30pm Meet & Greet

Monday

7:30-8:15am Breakfast
8:30am Lecture: Intro to science communication
9:00am Lecture: Intro to video cameras
10:00am Lecture: Elements of storytelling
11:00am Exercise: Building blocks of a scene
12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Exercise con't: Building blocks
2:00pm Lab: Footage management & basic editing
5:00pm Screening: Building blocks of a scene
6:00-6:45pm Dinner
7:30pm Screening: Life at the Edge of the Sea

Tuesday

7:30-8:15am Breakfast
8:30am Lecture: Shooting & light
9:30am Lecture: Cinematography & composition
10:30am Field: Creative camerawork
12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Lecture: Story ideas and making a plan
2:00pm Lab: Creative video editing
5:00pm Screening: Creative camerawork
6:00-6:45pm Dinner
7:30pm Screening: Cane Toads

Wednesday

7:30-8:15am Breakfast
8:30am Lecture: Audio for Film
9:30am Lecture: Writing for Film
10:30am Field: Gathering sounds while filming
12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Lab: Adding music, narration and sounds
4:30pm Lab: Production Values
5:00pm Screening & Discussion: Audio
6:00-6:45pm Dinner
7:30pm Screening: Saving Luna

Thursday

7:30-8:15am Breakfast
8:30am Intro to Video Blog Project
8:45am Lecture: Working with people
9:45am Lab: Studio lighting & interviews
10:30 Field: Interviews
12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Lab: Time Lapse Videography
5:00pm Screening: Interviews
6:00-6:45pm Dinner
7:30pm Screening: Hornets from Hell

Friday

7:30-8:15am Breakfast
8:30am Lecture: The craft of editing
9:30am Lecture: Postproduction overview
10:30am Screening: Time Lapse
12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Lab: Output and distribution
1:45pm Open time for projects
4:30pm Screening: Gorilla Murders
6:00-6:45pm Dinner
7:30pm Open time for projects

Saturday

9:00-9:45am Breakfast
8:30am Lecture: Underwater videography
10:30am Screening: Pigeon Murders
11:00am Open time for projects
12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:00pm Open time for projects
6:00-6:45PM Dinner

Sunday

9:00-9:45am Breakfast
10:00am Film Festival (Video Blog projects)
11:00am Wrap up & debrief
12:00pm Departure

** We can offer 1, 3, 7, 12, or 21 day workshops.
All content can be customized to meet your needs.*

Feedback from past participants

“The combination of Colin Bates’ science background and technology knowledge with the professional, hands on experience of Jeff Morales from the prestigious National Geographic, made this course a dream come true. I talked to a few other people and I really think that this course changed the lives of many of us.”

“Every minute of every day spent with Jeff and Colin stand out in my mind as being the best experience I’ve ever encountered during my education. As a whole it was the most fulfilling course I have ever taken.”

“Colin was fantastic with the technical side of things and is a wizard with technology. His help was instrumental in actually putting our movie together. Jeff was really great at showing us the bigger picture. He really showed us what the world of documentary filmmaking is like.”

“Jeff and Colin were both awesome! They really know what they want from us and how to help us get there. They kept mentioning that we had exceeded their expectations over and over again. They kept giving credit to us but I think that it was more so their teaching that has brought out the best in us.”



ScienceFilm Workshop at Friday Harbor Laboratories (2009)

Contact the ScienceFilm Team

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Jeff helps a student work out story ideas



ScienceFilm students from the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre (2009) direct the Remotely Operated Vehicle operator to capture underwater footage



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