my name is Barbara Tinoco and I'm a project manager for NASA's analog missions. An analog is an environment that is similar to spaceflight has similar characteristics whether it be environment or terrain. We conduct these missions in the field or simulations here on-site at NASA to simulate operations for exploration missions. No matter what the destination is that NASA goes to explore, we can use the analog to get there and test out the missions and hardware that would go to space. We learn our lessons.
early in the design before the hardware gets too far along in its development and so we save costs later on the past two years we have done an asteroid mission study which included both undersea missions as well as simulations here on site I started off as a cooperative education student and got a lot of different experiences both in Mission Operations as well as engineering and started off my career with NASA in the spacesuit and extra vehicular activity to those versions my job is really exciting the team
including the astronauts and all of the engineers are great everybody comes from a different discipline we have folks with operations experience and engineer experience and we all work together to train the astronauts to conduct realistic missions my advice would be to do what you love study what you enjoy and if you love your job then it's not a job you enjoy going there every day and it's not a chore so just have fun