

# Postgraduate Certificate in Strategic Leadership

UC Business School | Te Kura Umanga



## Take Charge of Your Leadership Development

The Postgraduate Certificate in Strategic Leadership (60 points) offers professionals a complete, flexible leadership toolkit. Whether you're an experienced leader or aspiring to take the next step in your career, this programme provides a path to elevate your leadership capabilities.

### Programme Structure: A Complete Leadership Journey

The programme is structured around six key leadership courses, each designed to build on the other for a comprehensive learning experience:

#### Leading People and Performance (MBAD605) – 10 points

Learn to optimise individual and team performance to achieve organisational goals. Explore effective leadership styles and strategies for driving results in diverse settings.

#### Leading Ourselves (MBAD615) – 10 points

Build self-awareness and reflect on your leadership capabilities. Develop ethical leadership practices, personal resilience, and strategies for professional and personal development.

#### Leading Complex Systems (MBAD617) – 10 points

Unlock the power of Systems Thinking to address modern challenges. Analyse complex problems, identify interconnections, and develop resilient solutions to foster organisational success.

#### Leading Business Strategy (MBAD631) – 10 points

Develop contemporary approaches to strategy formulation and execution. Gain skills to lead strategic initiatives and build sustainable competitive advantage in complex environments.

#### Leading Teams (MBAD642) – 10 points

Master the dynamics of high-performing teams. Explore strategies for communication, conflict resolution, and adapting your leadership style to enhance teamwork and collaboration.

#### Leading Decisions and Change (MBAD643) – 10 points

Navigate the intersection of strategic decision-making and organisational change. Learn to design change strategies and overcome barriers using proven frameworks.

There is also the opportunity to customise your leadership development. After taking four courses on the programme, up to 20 points (2 courses) may be substituted with other relevant postgraduate courses at an equivalent level.

**Customise your leadership journey to suit your industry and profession.**

### Flexible and accessible learning formats

Designed with flexibility in mind, this programme can be taken:

- **Fully Online:** Participate in 8-week modules with live virtual learning sessions, accessible from anywhere.
- **Fully In-Person:** Engage in immersive, on-campus block days (two blocks of two days).
- **Hybrid:** Mix both formats to suit your schedule—start with in-person courses and complete the remainder online, or choose the combination that works best for you.

Subject to course availability, it can be completed in 9 months full-time or part-time over 1.5 years (12.5 hours of study per week). Designed to fit your busy schedule, you can schedule the programme to suit your needs and availability as long as the programme is completed within 3 years.

### Who is this programme for?

- **Experienced leaders** aiming to refine their strategic leadership skills.
- **Aspiring leaders** looking to step into leadership roles with a strong foundation in core leadership principles.

No bachelor's degree is required—if you have **five years of relevant professional experience**, you are eligible to enrol in this leadership programme.

### When can you start?

We have 4 enrolment periods, aligned with the New Zealand school terms: February, April, July and September.

### Fees and Scholarships

The Postgraduate Certificate in Strategic Leadership is competitively priced, at \$753 per 10-point course for domestic learners, and \$3,408 per 10-point course for international learners. The fees outlined are based on the **2025 fee schedule** and are subject to annual revision. *Prices include GST where applicable.* Non-tuition fees, such as the *Student Services Levy (SSL)*, will also apply.

StudyLink Student Loan funding is only available for our February intake of this programme. If you intend to use a StudyLink Student Loan to finance your studies, please ensure you apply for a February start date.

**Leadership isn't reserved for those with titles—it's a mindset and set of behaviours that anyone can adopt. Whether you're managing a team, leading a project, or simply guiding your own career, everyone has the capacity to lead by influencing others, solving problems, and driving positive change.**

## More about the core courses

### Leading People and Performance (MBAD605) – 10 pts

This course provides you with theoretical knowledge and practical application of organisational behaviour, leadership, and management, exploring and critically appraising effective leadership in varying organisational, cultural, and industry settings. This course will discuss and appraise the relationship between an organisation's culture, its leadership, and its employees and develop strategies for managing performance. This course aims to explore what may be expected of leaders in the joint pursuit of improved organisational and individual outcomes to ensure performance excellence.

### Leading Ourselves (MBAD615) – 10 pts

This course enables you to identify and reflect on your leadership capabilities through self-assessment and reflection. You will develop the professional requirements to become an ethical leader. This course supports you in recognising your leadership gaps and designing your professional leadership development. During this course, you will examine yourself through self-assessment and analysis using key theories and cases related to the effective practice of ethical leadership. You will examine your current and previous workplace experiences and relationships to understand leadership behaviour in the context of the 'real world'.

### Leading Complex Systems (MBAD617) – 10 pts

This course equips you with the skills to navigate complex systems and make informed decisions in an interconnected and rapidly evolving world. Using Systems Thinking, you'll learn to analyze problems, recognize interconnections, and anticipate unintended consequences. The course emphasizes collaboration among diverse stakeholders to address challenges like climate change, sustainability, and resilience. By transcending traditional boundaries, you'll become a leader who drives impactful, long-term success.

### Leading Business Strategy (MBAD631) – 10 pts

This course will develop your skills in leading contemporary approaches to strategy development and analysis and formulation in complex business systems. You will develop the innovative practices of the organisation to respond to external challenges in a dynamic business environment. Adopting an ecosystems approach, this course focuses on building your skills to lead strategic development and identify competitive advantage for sustainable performance.

### Leading Teams (MBAD642) – 10 pts

This course will build your understanding of leading high-performing teams and develop your mastery in adapting your leadership style to meet the needs of your team and organisation. This course will develop your skills in working with individuals, the team dynamic and achieving the team and organisation's objectives. You will build your skills for agile and adaptive leadership that promotes effective performance. Finally, you will analyse your team's dynamic, understand the levers of influence and formulate strategies for effective conflict resolution, communication and team leadership.

### Leading Decisions and Change (MBAD643) – 10 pts

This course is designed to empower emerging and established leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the intricate relationship between strategic decision-making and organisational change. Throughout this subject, you will explore how strategic decisions shape and drive organisational transformations, and how change influences decision-making processes. By examining the assumptions, limitations, and mental models that either enable or impede strategic decision-making and change, you will develop a critical perspective and gain insights into overcoming barriers.

'The PG Cert in Strategic Leadership provided an opportunity to learn about myself and my leadership style – the strengths I had and the areas I could develop in a way that had not been available to me previously.

Joining with a cohort from outside of my industry opened new levels of engagement and experience that was both exciting and thought provoking.

Students were supportive of each other providing a safe environment for personal and professional growth. The whole experience was extremely positive and ultimately acted as the bridge that led me to enrol on the MBA.'



**Katherine Gee**

## Find out more

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[www.canterbury.ac.nz/study/academic-study/qualifications/postgraduate-certificate-in-strategic-leadership](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/study/academic-study/qualifications/postgraduate-certificate-in-strategic-leadership)



'In order to further develop my leadership skills and abilities I enrolled in the University of Canterbury Business School's PG Certificate in Strategic Leadership. It delivered everything I was hoping for, exceeding my expectations of how I would benefit both professionally and personally from this course.

After 15 years of leadership experience in middle and senior leadership positions it was a career highlight to learn from and work with the highly skilled and knowledgeable staff, successful and widely-experienced industry experts as well as my fellow students who came from a variety of sectors and leadership positions.

The papers in the PG Certificate of Strategic Leadership endorsed some of my leadership practice while also providing the right environment and personal space to consider and reflect upon my own leadership style, knowledge and skillset. Each paper encouraged personal and professional reflection as well as challenging my previously held thoughts and beliefs. The theoretical and practical aspects of papers were able to be quickly implemented into my leadership role, positively impacting both the organisation I was working for and the people in it.

Regardless if you have recently been appointed to a leadership position or are a seasoned leader, if you want to grow your leadership skills, knowledge and capability in an environment that will both support and challenge you, I couldn't recommend this opportunity highly enough.'

**Paul Dolan**

