

2026 Toi me te Hapori



Arts and the Community

Bachelor of:

Arts

Communication

Social and Environmental Sustainability

Social Work with Honours

Youth and Community Leadership



160+
CLUBS

*and societies on campus to
explore your hobbies or
find new ones*



Ngā Kai o Roto | Contents

Kia ora

- 2 Life in Ōtautahi Christchurch
- 4 Arts and the Community at UC
- 6 Kupu pātahi | Common terms
- 7 Double and conjoint degrees
- 8 Other areas of interest

Kaupapa | Subjects

- 10 Subjects

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Tohu | Qualifications

- 40 Bachelor of Arts
- 42 Bachelor of Communication
- 43 Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- 44 Bachelor of Social Work with Honours
- 45 Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Ka whai ake nei Next steps

- 47 Key dates
- 48 Tautoko | Get support
- 49 Whakapā mai | Contact us

Front cover: In the design Makaurangi, a fingerprint, the three elements are representative of Ngā Kete o te Wānanga, the three baskets of knowledge, with the lines and koru a symbol of mana and mana whenua. This design originates from traditional whakairo (carving) and kōwhaiwhai designs which can often be seen on the rafters inside wharehau (meeting house).

Rainbow Diversity Support



UC is proud to partner with Ngāi Tūāhuriri and Ngāi Tahu to uphold the mana and aspirations of mana whenua.

Kia ora

Arts encompasses everything to do in our society and what shapes it – history, policy, media, and social movements around the world. It is important to study these to know how to use your voice for the things that matter to you.

Browse through our list of subjects like Psychology, Anthropology, Māori Communication Strategy, Journalism, Youth and Community Leadership.

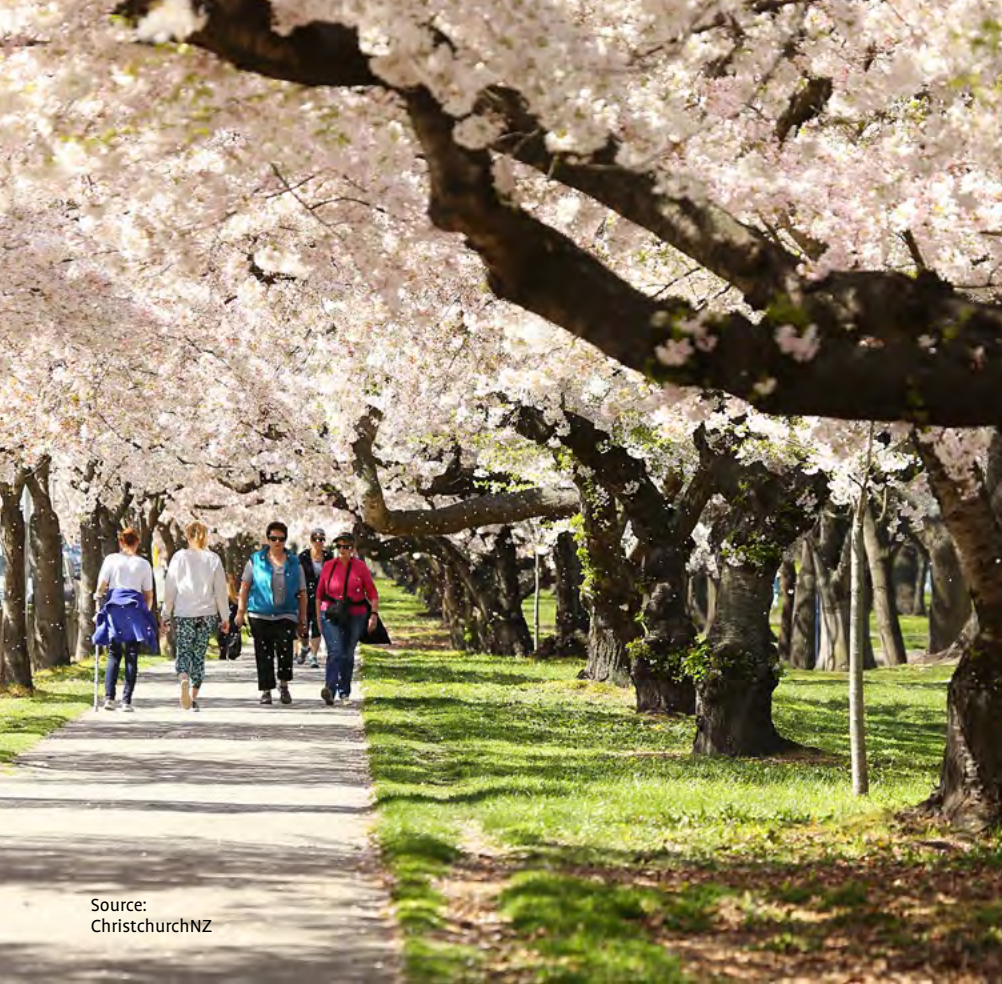
We also aim to give you a glimpse of what your studies are like in and out of the classroom; clubs, community projects, and critical discussions.

For any questions, contact a Future Student Advisor to get more information. See **page 49** for contact details. Please recycle this brochure or pass it to someone who wants to learn more.

Wairaamia

Kāi Tahu, Kāti Mamoe, Waitaha, Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāi te Rangi
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a minor in Māori and Indigenous Studies





Source:
ChristchurchNZ



*11% cheaper than Wellington
15% cheaper than Auckland*

Life in Ōtautahi Christchurch

It is easy to get around in Ōtautahi Christchurch, whether you walk, bike, ride the bus, or drive. UC is uniquely situated in Ōtautahi – with an open green campus, beautiful gardens, and a river running through.





365+
*walking, hiking, and mountain
biking tracks*

- 1. UC campus**
- 2. University of Canterbury Student Association (UCSA)**
- 3. UC accommodation**
- 4. Supermarket and restaurants**
15-minute walk from UC
- 5. Westfield shopping mall**
5-minute drive from UC
- 6. Central business district (CBD)**
10-minute drive from UC
- 7. Port Hills**
20-minute drive from UC
- 8. Beach**
20-minute drive from UC
- 9. Airport**
10-minute drive from UC
- 10. UC sports field**





UC offers
**TAUWHITINGA
MĀORI**
*the only Māori
Communication Strategy
and Practice major
of its kind*



Studies in Arts and the Community at UC

Mix-and-match

Arts subjects cover areas like sustainability, psychology, Māori and Indigenous studies, communication, human rights, linguistics, and social and youth work. With the range of options available, you can tailor your degree to your interests, or take something you've never studied before.

Indigenous knowledge

Kaupapa Māori is integrated into our courses, so you can learn about te ao Māori and understand the potential of Indigenous knowledge to address wider issues in our communities.

Explore Māori and Pacific storytelling by studying our new Indigenous Narrative minor, the first of its kind in Aotearoa. You can also take up Māori and Indigenous studies in many other ways — just speak to a Future Student Advisor.

Subject rankings

UC is ranked among the world's top 100 in Linguistics; top 200 in Political Science; and top 250 for Psychology (QS World University Rankings by Subject, 2024).

Work-Integrated Learning

Set yourself apart by engaging with UC's Work-Integrated Learning. As part of your degree, you are able to apply what you learn in your courses to practical settings like internships, projects, and competitions.

This hands-on approach not only enriches your education, but also helps you develop essential skills, gain valuable industry insights, and build a professional network. See **page 31** to learn about our internship programme called PACE.



“The facilities at the University of Canterbury are phenomenal. With a vast range of access and accessibilities, some of them exclusive to UC, the University offers so much for students, such as myself, to get involved with.”

Seth
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in Media and Communication



Student life

UC's campus culture makes for a great student experience. Our leafy green campus is nestled between moana (sea), maunga (mountains), and rangi (sky), and with the Ōtākaro Avon River winding through, there are many spots for you to take a breather.

Plus, we have 160+ active clubs, so you can balance out your studies with some fun. Some Arts clubs include:

- Classics Society (Classoc)
- French Society
- Musical Theatre Society (MUSOC)
- UC Anthropology
- UC Pols (Political Science)
- Education Society – Matauranga Porihangā (Edsoc).

ucsa.org.nz/clubs

World leading research

Professor Bronwyn Hayward was made a Member of the Order of New Zealand in 2022 for her services to sustainability and youth and has extensive experience as a coordinating lead author, and review editor for UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change (IPCC)

She is a Fellow of the New Zealand Royal society and internationally recognised for her work on sustainable development, urban policy and youth and was awarded a Kiwi Bank local hero award for sustainability and young people in 2020.

She uses her expertise in the field of sustainable development, poverty eradication, and reducing inequalities.

“We need transdisciplinary thinking to address complex, serious problems. Social sciences, humanities and creative arts training is vital alongside science and engineering to understand and tackle the world's most serious problems.” – Bronwyn Hayward



“There is so much you can learn at UC, and by tailoring your learning experience, you can really maximise your opportunities. This flexibility is something that will help you discover more about yourself while better preparing you to go out into the field.”

Min

Bachelor of Arts in Media and Communication, Political Science, with a minor in Japanese, Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Media and Communication

Kupu pātahi | Common terms



Degrees

Degrees are a type of qualification you can study at university — there are several types of qualifications varying in level of study and length of time, such as:

Bachelor's degrees

A bachelor's degree is an undergraduate qualification that usually takes 3–4 years to complete. We offer many bachelor's degrees.

Certificates and Diplomas

If you are unable to study a full degree, or want to add some additional study to your degree, you could complete a certificate or diploma. These have fewer courses and are often completed in 6 months to a year.

Subjects

Subjects are areas you can study in your degree. Some subjects you can continue from secondary school such as Music, Geography, English, while some you can start new at UC like Social Work, Linguistics, Marketing.

Major

A major is the main subject you choose to study all the way to the final year of your bachelor's degree. For example, a Bachelor of Arts majoring in History.

Double major

In some degrees, you are able to specialise in two main subjects — this is called a double major. These two majors can be completed in the same time as a single major.

Minor

A minor is another smaller subject focus you can take in your degree, which you won't study as extensively as a major. For example, a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Psychology with a minor in Spanish.

It is not compulsory to do a minor.

Specialisation

Specialisations combine different subjects together into a central theme. They allow you to specialise in multiple subjects all the way into your final year. These are offered within the Bachelor of Arts. See [page 41](#).

Courses

A course is a specific topic within a subject, for example an American history course within the History subject. This involves lectures, assignments, and other forms of study. Your degree is made up of multiple courses.

Points

Each course has a points value — 1 point is equivalent to 10 hours of study. You will need to complete a certain number of points overall to successfully finish your study.

Semester

The academic year is split into three periods of study. One semester is the equivalent of two terms at secondary school.

- Semester 1: February – June
- Semester 2: July – November
- Summer: November – February.

More information

Please contact the Future Students Office for degree and subject planning advice. See [page 49](#).

futurestudents@canterbury.ac.nz

Double and conjoint degrees



If you are really keen, you can combine bachelor's degrees. There are two ways of doing this – double and conjoint degrees.

Double degrees

Some bachelor's degrees can be studied together. This allows you to really specialise your study, opening up a wider range of career options.

Conjoint degrees

A conjoint takes a major from one degree and another major from another separate degree and combines them into one degree. Unlike double degrees, these must be completed at the same time, and involve a much higher workload each year.

There are currently three conjoint degrees with Arts:

- Conjoint Bachelor of Arts and Commerce
- Conjoint Bachelor of Arts and Science
- Conjoint Bachelor of Arts and Engineering with Honours.

NOTE: A Future Student Advisor can help you plan your studies. See [page 49](#) for contact details.

The table below compares the two ways of studying:

	Double degree	Conjoint degree
Entrance requirements	University Entrance (UE).	UE and at least Level 3 endorsed in Merit.
Academic requirement to continue each year of degree	Standard passing grades apply.	Must maintain a grade average of at least a B each year.
Workload per year	Standard (120 points). Approximately eight (15-point) courses per year.	Increased (135 points). Approximately nine (15-point) courses per year. Must take at least one course from each qualification each year.
Graduate	You can either complete both at the same time or one after the other.	Both degrees must be completed before you can graduate.
Minimum timeframe	5–6 years (depending on degrees).	4 years.
Majors/minors	As required/permitted for each degree. Multiple majors (eg, double major in a single degree) and minors are possible.	Maximum of one major in each degree. Minors may be possible; and a minor is required for the BA.
Number of qualifications gained	Two – you gain both degrees.	One – a conjoint combines the courses into just one degree.

Other areas of interest

2026
Umanga
Business

UC UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
In Whānau, Whānau, Whānau

Bachelor of Commerce

2026
Ahumahi Auaha
Creative Industries

UC UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
In Whānau, Whānau, Whānau

Bachelor of:
Digital Screen with Honours
Fine Arts
Music

2026
Pūhanga me te Hanga Otinga
Engineering and Product Design

UC UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
In Whānau, Whānau, Whānau

Bachelor of:
Engineering with Honours
Product Design

2026
Hauora me te Hākinakina
Health and Sport

UC UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
In Whānau, Whānau, Whānau

Bachelor of:
Health Sciences
Sport
Speech and Language Pathology with Honours

2026
Ture me te Muru Taihara
Law and Criminal Justice

UC UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
In Whānau, Whānau, Whānau

Bachelor of:
Law
Criminal Justice

2026
Pūtaiao
Sciences

UC UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
In Whānau, Whānau, Whānau

Bachelor of:
Data Science
Environmental Science with Honours
Forestry Science
Psychological Science
Science

2026
Ako
Teaching

UC UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY
In Whānau, Whānau, Whānau

Ako: Bachelor of Teaching and Learning
Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning
Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning
Master of Teaching and Learning
(Primary Education or Secondary Education)

Kaupapa Subjects





Engage with the community through

EXCITING INTERNSHIPS

from marketing and health advocacy to organising events and policy analysis



Kaupapa | Subjects

- 11 Ancient Greek
- 11 Anthropology
- 12 Art History and Theory
- 12 Chinese
- 13 Cinema Studies
- 13 Classics
- 14 Communication Strategy and Practice
- 14 Community Music
- 15 Creative Industries and Contemporary Practice
- 15 Cultural Heritage
- 15 Cultural Studies
- 16 Digital Humanities
- 16 Economics
- 17 Education
- 18 English
- 18 Environmental Policy, Governance and Social Justice
- 19 European and European Union Studies
- 19 French
- 20 Global Societies and Cultures
- 20 Geography
- 20 German
- 21 History
- 22 Humanitarian Work
- 22 Human Services
- 22 Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Partnerships
- 23 International Affairs
- 23 Japanese
- 24 Journalism
- 24 Language, Brain and Behaviour
- 25 Latin
- 25 Linguistics
- 26 Māori and Indigenous Studies
- 26 Mathematical Sciences Education
- 27 Mathematics
- 27 Media and Communication
- 28 Music
- 28 Pacific Studies
- 29 Philosophy
- 29 Philosophy, Politics and Economics
- 29 Political Communication
- 30 Political Science and International Relations
- 31 Professional and Community Engagement
- 31 Psychology
- 32 Russian
- 32 Social Action, Community and Global Development
- 32 Social Activism
- 33 Social Entrepreneurship
- 33 Social Work
- 34 Society, Diversity and Change
- 34 Sociology
- 35 Spanish
- 35 Statistics
- 36 Sustainable Business, Enterprise and Economics
- 36 Tauwhitinga Māori
- 37 Te Reo Māori
- 37 Youth Work and Development
- 38 Youth and Community Leadership

Ancient Greek

Studying Ancient Greek at UC will involve more than just the language; you will delve into Greek literature, history, politics, architecture, and philosophy.

Through your studies, you will be able to draw upon the past to better understand what is going on in the world right now as many modern concepts like democracy, theatre, and psychology originated in Greece.

What will my study involve?

- In-depth learning of ancient Greek culture through various topics in the original language.
- Get hands-on with our James Logie Memorial Collection of ancient artefacts in the Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities.
- UC hosts guest speakers from all over the world at public lectures and events.
- Study at Te Matatiki Toi Ora | Arts Centre campus.

Courses

Your first year involves learning beginner's Ancient Greek. Later you will read major texts of Greek epic poetry, drama, philosophy and more, under the guidance of research-active and internationally regarded staff.

If you know some Ancient Greek already, then you may enter straight into second-year courses.

Topics can include:

- grammar and vocabulary
- life and culture
- literature
- research projects.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Through learning the language and analysing ancient Greek culture, you will gain skills like research, analysis, attention to detail, critical thinking, and communication.

Career pathways could include:

- museums and libraries
- teaching and academia
- art and language conservation
- publishing.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Ancient Greek:

- Certificate in Languages
- Diploma in Languages

Anthropology

If you are interested in the history of our existence, languages and cultures, identity, and religion, then Anthropology is for you.

At UC, you will learn about our collective history, and explore future issues like the evolving role of technology in our lives, power structures and systemic issues, and where our global culture might be heading.

What will my study involve?

- Study topics that challenge your current way of thinking, and get you thinking deeply about the topic.
- Get hands-on experience with real ancient artefacts through UC's Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities, based at Te Matatiki Toi Ora | Arts Centre of Christchurch, with a collection spanning more than 2,500 years from about 2,000 BCE.
- Get involved on campus through clubs and advocacy.
- Combine your interests with other studies by adding Anthropology to many UC bachelor's degrees.

Courses

First-year courses will introduce you to various aspects of culture, and how it evolves over time due to political, economic, colonial, and social changes.

Topics can include:

- human origins and world history
- religion, witchcraft, and other rituals
- historical and contemporary racism
- family structures.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

You can tailor your studies in Anthropology to suit your job or career interests. The skills you learn through your studies like rational thinking, critical analysis, ethnography, cross-cultural communication, writing, and research can be used in other fields.

Career pathways could include:

- government and policy
- international relations and foreign affairs
- media and public relations
- social research.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Anthropology:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Art History and Theory

This subject traces history and culture using artefacts, architecture, photos, and more. Learn to find meaning through objects and see how these affect our experiences.

What will my study involve?

- Learn in the main and city centre campuses.
- Get hands-on with our James Logie Memorial Collection of ancient artefacts in the Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities in the city, and Aotearoa New Zealand's cultural collections at Te Puna Rakahau o Macmillan Brown | Macmillan Brown Library on campus.
- Internship courses where you can gain practical skills and build connections.
- Combine Art History and Theory studies with other subject interests like Classics, Anthropology, and languages.

Courses

In your first year, you will cover topics in modern art by examining mediums like painting, photography, and film. You will also be introduced to architecture and objects in art history, and complete practical work with real artefacts.

Topics can include:

- Japanese art
- Indigenous art
- art in Europe
- visual culture like print, photography, and film.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Throughout your studies, you will practice skills like critical analysis, attention to detail, perspective, cultural awareness, and research.

By examining artworks, you will gain 'visual' literacy, a skill that is applicable to many areas and careers.

Career pathways could include:

- museum and gallery curatorship
- heritage conservation
- publishing
- library science.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Art History and Theory:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Chinese

China is one of the world's oldest civilisations, with Mandarin Chinese spoken by more than half the world's population.

Studying Chinese gives you access to this economic power, with huge international influence and ever-growing relations with Aotearoa.

What will my study involve?

- Learn modern standard Chinese.
- Experience Chinese society, including literature, cinema, technology, and modern culture.
- UC's Confucius Institute, in collaboration with Huazhong University of Science and Technology, has opportunities to practise Chinese language and experience the culture on campus.
- Exchange opportunities with China, including business tours and language immersion with Chinese universities.

Courses

No previous knowledge of the Chinese language is required to study this subject at UC. Besides spoken and written Chinese language, other courses explore Chinese history, society, and achievements that have influenced the world.

If you know some Chinese already, then you may be given direct entry into second-year Chinese courses.

Topics can include:

- traditional and contemporary culture
- cinema
- global politics and international relations
- economy and trade.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Learning Chinese will open up work both in Aotearoa and overseas, including exchange opportunities while you are studying. There are lots of ways to strengthen your cross-cultural communication and awareness at UC.

Career pathways could include:

- interpreting and translation
- tourism and travel agencies
- business and trade relations
- immigration.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Chinese:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Languages
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Languages

Cinema Studies

Film is a unique medium, in that there are so many ways to tell stories. The cultural impact and influence of cinema over the years has been huge.

This subject will introduce you to the tools and techniques used in film creation. In your classes, you will analyse the structure, cinematic style, and storytelling of films from diverse genres through the lens of theory, history, and culture.

What will my study involve?

- From the silent era of film to modern day – explore the evolution of movies and filmmaking.
- Other topics include analysis of scenes, screenwriting, exploration of Māori identity, storytelling for children, and the French New Wave.
- You can minor in Cinema Studies in many UC bachelor's degrees.

Courses

Besides film theory and history, in your first year you will analyse 12 films from 12 countries in 12 weeks as part of our 'Backpacker's Guide to World Cinema' course. In later years, you will explore particular cultural adaptations, genres, and styles of interest.

Topics can include:

- Māori film and media
- film history
- novels and film adaptations
- documentaries as a medium.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

You will learn the art of critical analysis for themes, theories, and technical aspects of filmmaking. Film is a broad medium, so there are many opportunities from writing and production to business and marketing in the industry.

Career pathways could include:

- filmmaking
- film reviewing
- marketing and public relations
- event management.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Cinema Studies:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Classics

Studying the ancient cultures of Greece and Rome shows us how our modern world formed. Everything from western politics to philosophy, science to architecture, language to storytelling had their origins in these great civilisations, and there are even connections we can make to current events today that have been experienced in the past.

At UC, you can customise your Classics studies with topics that interest you, such as art and architecture, politics, drama and written works, ancient language, and even sociology and daily life of the people.

What will my study involve?

- You will get hands-on experience with real ancient artefacts through UC's Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities, based at Te Matatiki Toi Ora | Arts Centre, with a collection spanning more than 2,500 years from about 2,000 BCE.
- Courses include areas such as history, slavery, sex and gender, warfare, art and architecture, political leaders, ancient literature, and philosophy.
- Option in your final year to take an internship, with past projects including museum and art curatorship work, events management, social media, and research of artefacts.

Courses

All our first year courses are designed to introduce a variety of aspects of the ancient world.

Topics can include:

- Greek and Roman mythologies
- Greek and Roman history
- beginner's Greek and Latin
- social and political systems.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Seeing the entire history of the Ancient Greek and Roman civilisations teaches you a lot about how to analyse events to understand other cultures and viewpoints, and how society and politics develop and work, especially towards world relations and current affairs.

Career pathways could include:

- museum curatorship
- political relations, foreign affairs, policy
- conservation and archaeology
- communications.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Classics:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Communication Strategy and Practice

Communication is an essential part of any organisation and like any other process requires a strategic plan. This involves knowing who your audience is, what you want to say, how you want to say it, and continuing to maintain and develop relationships.

Through your study you will learn how to plan and manage campaigns using a mix of theory, technology, and case studies.

What will my study involve?

- Learn how to produce content for social media, websites, brochures, apps, and other platforms.
- Gain skills in crisis communications and reputation management.

- Participate in real-world projects in your final year through an internship or industry campaign.
- Take optional courses to complement your studies like advertising, entrepreneurship, linguistics, and politics.

Courses

First-year courses are introductory and will help you develop a broad skillset in media content production, planning, and research. From your second year onwards, you will be able to focus on strategic communications, managing media campaigns, and public response.

Topics can include:

- campaign development
- consumer behaviour and psychology
- market analysis
- communication for social change.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Through this major, you will learn how to balance strategic thinking, the needs of your stakeholders, and being creative. Your experience using various media platforms will make you adaptable to different communications needs and new media technologies.

Career pathways could include:

- stakeholder engagement
- public relations
- marketing and advertising
- writing, editing, publishing.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Communication Strategy and Practice:

- Bachelor of Communication

Community Music

Community musicians bring communities together through music for the purpose of health and wellbeing, social justice, and community cohesion.

A minor in community music will give you the musical skills and personal attributes needed to lead music-making in social and workplace settings.

What will my study involve?

- Create positive change in your local communities by encouraging participation in making music.
- Learn how music expresses and transmits cultural memory and cultural identity, including in indigenous cultures.
- Develop attributes like communication, patience, empathy, listening, and risk-taking that you can use in various settings.
- Complete an internship hosted by the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and in partnership with other Christchurch organisations.

Courses

Topics can include:

- The role of music as an expression of a community's culture
- Using music to promote health and wellbeing and/or social justice
- Music in a Te Ao Māori context
- Internship in the local community

Career opportunities

Learn to facilitate and lead community music activities. Community musicians work in a range of contexts including education and healthcare in order to address community needs and promote positive social outcomes. The skills are also useful for anyone working with groups of people such as teaching, social work, group facilitation, and event management.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Community Music:

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Diploma in Arts

Creative Industries and Contemporary Practice

This specialisation is for those who want to be a part of the creative industry by combining artistic and business skills.

Study at least two areas of the creative arts of your choice (music and audio, film and media, art, and creative writing) through applied learning and theory.

What will my study involve?

- Study key industry skills like management, marketing, and communication.
- Choose your courses based on the creative industries you want to work in.
- Create practical projects and choose between a final-year internship or podcasting experience.

Courses

We will give you a range of experiences to develop industry knowledge. Each year you will choose courses from different creative pathways.

Topics can include:

- visual content design
- producing music
- social media marketing
- screenwriting.

[canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo)

Career opportunities

This degree can lead to a range of careers in the arts industry, such as producing, writing, management, and communications.

Career pathways could include:

- campaign and event management
- editing and publishing
- marketing art
- media production.

[canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers)

Study Creative Industries and Contemporary Practice:

- Bachelor of Arts

Cultural Heritage

If you are interested in galleries, libraries, archives, and museums, then this specialisation is for you. Explore culture through objects, ranging from contemporary art to archaeological remains to the built environment.

You will be able to look critically at our cultural heritage in Aotearoa, and apply these skills to international contexts.

What will my study involve?

- Study a range of cultures across the globe through different time periods.
- Courses can include areas such as history, art, warfare, language, and religion.
- Benefit from connections with local museums, art galleries, heritage archives, and libraries around Ōtautahi Christchurch, including internships.
- Practical experience with artefacts dated from 2,000 BCE with the Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities, located at Te Matatiki Toi Ora | Arts Centre.

Courses

Each year you will select courses depending on your interests in a particular culture, historical period, and society. In the final year, you will choose between practical heritage courses and an internship focused on your chosen areas.

Topics can include:

- revolution and change
- Māori history
- architecture
- shaping culture through art.

[canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo)

Career opportunities

A degree examining cultural heritage teaches you how history and culture has shaped everything we create. It prepares you for working with cultural and educational institutions, heritage conservation, or any sector which requires a high degree of multicultural competency.

Career pathways could include:

- iwi engagement and development
- curatorship
- communications
- art history.

[canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers)

Study Creative Industries and Contemporary Practice:

- Bachelor of Arts

Cultural Studies

In Cultural Studies, you will analyse film, social media, graphic novels, art, fashion, sport, and everyday activities with the aim of understanding how complex our culture is and how it shapes our identity.

This subject, like culture, is highly flexible; you can construct your own degree and choose to dive into what interests you the most.

What will my study involve?

- Create your own pathway of study, which might emphasise popular culture and media, gender and sexuality, human-animal studies, or culture in Aotearoa.
- Combine wide-ranging topics like cinema studies, digital humanities and online cultures, sociology, and Māori and Indigenous studies.
- Explore a range of theories, worldviews, and cultural texts and debates.
- Adding a minor in Cultural Studies with another degree will expand your perspective on culture and identity in your other studies.

Courses

Courses from many subjects are shared with Cultural Studies, including Anthropology, Chinese, Cinema Studies, Digital Humanities, English, History, Human Services, Māori and Indigenous Studies, Media and Communication, Music, and Sociology.

Topics can include:

- political and cultural activism
- sexuality and gender identity
- media and film
- colonisation and indigenous cultures.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

From the careful consideration of different aspects of culture, you will be able to develop a broad skillset including critical thinking, analysis, communication, writing, and research.

Your study can be applied to a variety of fields making it easy for you to move in the job market.

Career pathways could include:

- arts management
- journalism, editing, and publishing
- public relations and advocacy
- campaign management.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Cultural Studies:

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Digital Humanities

Digital Humanities explores our digital technologies and their effect on our new ways of thinking, living, and working.

UC is the only university in Aotearoa where you can study this subject and learn to apply digital tools and methods.

What will my study involve?

- Learn about new technologies such as web analytics, social media platforms, digital music, robotics, virtual reality.
- Complete practical projects, training, and internships with Te Pokapū Aronui ā-Matihiko | UC Arts Digital Lab.
- Minor within several bachelor's degrees so you can apply digital tools to your other study interests.

Courses

These courses train you to create and apply digital solutions for industry, and explore how our reliance on technology has changed our collective culture.

Topics can include:

- social media trends
- human-robot interactions
- geographic information systems
- online communities.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

This study will make you highly adaptable to learning, training, and advising on new digital trends. Any industry from creative media, cultural heritage, business, policy, and more will benefit from your technical and analytical skills.

Career pathways could include:

- business technology consultancy
- social media marketing
- web data analysis
- digital content creation.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Digital Humanities:

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Economics

Economics is the study of how people behave and make decisions — how we use our resources, how we deal with issues like climate change, which career we choose, and more. These decisions involve trade-offs between costs and benefits, and we are constantly considering these in our everyday life.

At UC, there are lots of opportunities to gain experience including industry projects, internships, clubs, and overseas study trips.

What will my study involve?

- Learn about the impact of your choices on the world, and how foreign countries impact Aotearoa New Zealand's economy.
- Option for a final-year internship.
- Economics major and minor is available in many degrees so you can combine studies with other relevant areas such as Finance, Product Design, Political Science and International Relations, and Psychology.

Courses

First-year courses are introductory and teach you the basics of micro and macroeconomics. More advanced courses expand into areas such as market and organisational behaviour, and public policy.

Topics can include:

- international trade
- consumer and business behaviour
- developmental economics
- environmental economics.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

By analysing the impact of choices by government, consumers, and businesses, you will learn important skills like critical thinking, understanding risk, and forecasting to help make better decisions.

Career pathways could include:

- professional economist
- market research
- data analyst
- banking and investment.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Economics:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Science

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Commerce
- Certificate in Science
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Commerce
- Diploma in Science

Education

Learning is something we do every day. It happens in more places than the classroom like community settings, the workplace, art, sport, and even gaming.

Studying Education will give you the knowledge to understand how human development and learning are shaped by the history and context of Aotearoa New Zealand, and the opportunities and challenges we face in designing inclusive and effective educational experiences for everyone.

What will my study involve?

- Study topics like child and adolescent development, and social and cultural studies in education.
- Education can be studied as a major or a minor and combined with many different degrees, so you are able to study Education alongside your other subject interests.

Courses

The first-year courses will give you the foundations of educational, learning, and human development theories, concepts, and processes.

The following years offer a range of optional courses so you can customise your study to focus on educational and developmental psychology, policy, or social justice.

Topics can include:

- educational philosophy and policy in Aotearoa
- diversity in education — culture, sexuality, gender, ability
- promoting social and emotional learning and wellbeing within and through education
- globalisation, social justice, and the future of education.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Due to Education being a multidisciplinary field of study, it can lead to a range of career opportunities in and out of a classroom.

Career pathways could include:

- curriculum/programme designer
- community support officer
- education advisor
- educational psychologist.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Education:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

English

Studying literature opens up worlds and times beyond our experience, helping us understand and reflect on our own history, society, and identity. It builds core skills for study, career, and daily life.

What will my study involve?

- Learn how to analyse texts, write clearly and creatively, debate and critique effectively, and how literature adapts to cultural and historical influences.
- Chance to create your own fictional or non-fictional works, from poetry to novels to essays in a variety of different courses.
- Alongside courses on the novel, theatre, and 20th century literature, we also offer courses in fields such as children's literature, human-animal studies, and popular fiction (including science fiction, horror, and fantasy).

Courses

You will get to choose from a range of topics each year of your degree, starting with the basics of academic and/or creative writing techniques, analysing themes and genres, and exploring some of the greatest literature works throughout history.

Topics can include:

- science fiction, crime thriller, and other genres
- creative writing – screen, stage, novels, and more
- film adaptations
- exploring culture, identity, and sexuality through literature.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Reading, analysing, and critiquing skills are useful in a huge range of occupations, including journalism, law, communications, publications, and even digital spaces. University studies may open the way towards creating your own works and becoming a published author.

Career pathways could include:

- digital media and communications
- reporting
- publishing and editing
- advertising and content writing.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study English:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Environmental Policy, Governance and Social Justice

To make just and sustainable decisions for the environment and our wellbeing, we must learn to see how politics, social behaviour, and business economics can both cause and improve issues. Demand for products and services can lead to problems such as pollution, slave labour and workers' rights, and Indigenous land disputes.

In this subject, you will examine global sustainability and social equity issues and learn how to respond with actionable change to communities and businesses.

What will my study involve?

- Connect your study to real-world problems through field studies and an internship.
- Build upon UC's sustainability goals and use our local and international connections with industry.
- Courses include a range of areas like political science and law, philosophy and ethics, economics, social enterprise, sociology, and psychology so you can follow your interests in particular issues.
- Engage with ideas of mātauranga Māori (knowledge), Pacific history, decolonisation, and tino rangatiratanga (authority).

Courses

All our first-year courses are designed to introduce you to a variety of sustainability and humanitarian concepts, including political science, philosophy, and health.

Topics can include:

- systems and social change
- environmental politics and policy
- Māori and Indigenous knowledge
- environmental science and natural resource management.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Learning about sustainability from a policy and social justice point of view teaches you how to critically analyse systems and enact social change that is inclusive of other cultures, communities, and businesses.

Career pathways could include:

- policy and advisory
- non-profit sector
- marketing, communications, and events
- business operations management.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Environmental Policy, Governance and Social Justice:

- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability

European and European Union Studies

With 27 member states and 450 million people, the European Union (EU) is Aotearoa New Zealand's most significant bilateral partner after Australia and China and is one of the world's leading political and trading blocs. Europe provides an important reference point to Aotearoa and the global community in cultural, linguistic, and political aspects.

Your study will look into current events as well as history, language, and culture that have shaped Europe and the European Union.

What will my study involve?

- Choose from a broad range of topics including the political, economic, cultural, and social integration of modern-day and historical Europe.
- Get taught by members of the National Centre for Research on Europe (NCRE), Aotearoa New Zealand's only research centre devoted to study of Europe and the EU.
- Opportunity to complete an international or virtual exchange with UC's European partner universities.

Courses

Learn about the different regions that make up Europe and the EU, its cultural diversity, and the political landscape from its creation through to today. You will also be able to include study in a European language as part of the degree, choosing from German, French, Russian, or Spanish.

Topics can include:

- EU and global affairs
- film and literature
- East European communism
- politics.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Studying European and European Union Studies will open up a wide range of careers in Aotearoa and abroad. Your skills and knowledge provide you with a unique perspective on Europe and the EU in various industries, from politics to education to humanities.

Career pathways could include:

- international trade consultancy
- foreign affairs
- communications
- policy analysis.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study European and European Union Studies:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

French

French is one of the truly international languages and is useful in travel, culture, trade, science, and sport.

With 29 countries speaking French as an official language, studying at UC will be a great addition to your studies and will ensure you have the skills to work internationally.

What will my study involve?

- Become an expert in the French language, as well as the history and culture of French-speaking countries: France, Belgium, Monaco, Canada, Congo, Madagascar, and more across the globe.
- International and virtual exchange programmes with multiple universities, including IEP Aix and the Institute of Political Studies in Paris.
- French can be taken with a range of bachelor's degrees, as well as in a certificate or diploma in French with your other studies.

Courses

No prior knowledge is needed to study French at UC. First-year courses are introductory lessons in French, with further study moving on to intermediate and advanced-level French, and history and culture.

If you know some French already, then you may be given direct entry into second-year French courses.

Topics can include:

- French culture — Europe, the Caribbean, Africa, the Pacific, Canada
- French literature and film
- World War history
- The French Revolution.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

French is spoken the world over, and your knowledge will help with cross-cultural relationship building and open you up to careers all over the world.

Career pathways could include:

- international diplomacy
- trade and tourism
- public relations and journalism
- international business.

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Study French:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Languages
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Languages

Global Societies and Cultures

Through this specialisation you will learn to engage with ideas that have shaped today's world during the course of history and examine Aotearoa New Zealand's bicultural society in a global context.

Knowing a second language greatly increases your competitiveness in the global job market and serves as a gateway to cross-cultural awareness and communication.

What will my study involve?

- Combine language and cultural studies
- Choose from courses based on your specific interests and industry you wish to work in – history, literature, film, and language.

Courses

Courses are designed to develop knowledge of the global industry through culture and languages.

In your first and second year, you are required to learn a language and you will have the opportunity to advance your skills in your final year, and/or complete historical, political, and cultural studies on a region of interest.

Topics can include:

- global film analysis
- modern and ancient history
- shaping culture through art
- Māori culture and identity.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

This degree pathway can lead to a range of careers in history, society, and culture. Your study experiences will give you the knowledge to work in many industries in Aotearoa and abroad.

Career pathways could include:

- public sector
- international education
- media and communications
- diplomatic and international relations.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Global Societies and Cultures:

- Bachelor of Arts

Geography

Geography is the study of human behaviour, the environment we live in, and the relationship between both.

This field combines arts and sciences to find innovative solutions to our society's most pressing issues and debates, and the human response to these challenges, such as climate change, poverty, sustainability, health, and inequality.

What will my study involve?

- Explore different pathways in geography: physical geography, human geography, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and resource and environmental management.
- Practical workshops, labs, and fieldtrips to examine geographical processes outside of the classroom – including urban mobility and planning.
- You will get the opportunity to undertake research with community partners that supports resilient environments and communities through research.

Courses

Introductory level courses are offered in your first year of Geography studies. Further study will offer a variety of courses to choose from and deepen your understanding of your specific interests.

Topics can include:

- climate change – environmental and societal effects and responses
- physical processes from mountains to sea
- community and urban development
- geospatial science.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Geography is a distinctive field between science and arts that also has links to law, sociology, engineering, computer science, and health sciences. Due to this diversity, study in Geography will lead to a range of career opportunities.

Career pathways could include:

- climate or environmental consultant
- resource manager
- urban or transport planner
- geospatial scientist.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Geography:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Science
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Science

German

German is spoken by 130 million people all over the world. Through its authors, philosophers, composers, painters, and scientists, German-speaking Europe has helped shaped history for the past 800 years.

There are lots of opportunities to use this language professionally, as Germany has the 4th largest economy in the world and is a key player in international trade and relations.

What will my study involve?

- Become an expert in German language, as well as in the history and culture of German-speaking countries, including Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, and Liechtenstein.
- Access to exchange programmes with the University of Konstanz and the University of Freiburg.
- UC hosts the National Centre for Research on Europe (NCRE), the only research centre for the study of Europe and the EU in Aotearoa.
- You can study German within a range of different bachelor's degrees, or you can also add a certificate or diploma in German language alongside your other studies.

Courses

No prior knowledge is needed to study German at UC. You will start with elementary German in your first year, then advance from there.

If you know some German already, then you may be given direct entry into second-year courses.

Topics can include:

- European identity and culture
- European novels and film adaptations
- rise and fall of communism
- World War history.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Knowing languages is highly sought after – it helps in cross-cultural relationship building, and helps you to pursue your career interests around the world. German language in particular is vital to international areas such as science, engineering, business, history, and tourism.

Career pathways could include:

- diplomatic and international relations
- teaching
- trade market
- research.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study German:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Languages
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Languages

History

History is at the heart of everything we do and is much more than studying the past – it gives you an insight into who we are as a society now, and helps us make better decisions for the future.

At UC, you will learn about different eras of history and cultures around the world, while also looking into our own bicultural heritage.

What will my study involve?

- Fit your courses to your interests whether that is revolutions, medieval history, religious beginnings, empires, or criminology.
- Get hands-on experience with real ancient artefacts through UC's Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities, based at Te Matatiki Toi Ora | Arts Centre of Christchurch, with a collection spanning more than 2,500 years from about 2,000 BCE.
- You can minor in History in different bachelor's degrees to add historical knowledge to your studies.

- Opportunity to complete a practical internship in organisations including archiving, museum curatorship, events and social media management, and research projects.

Courses

First-year courses are designed to introduce various aspects of history with broad topics. Further study will allow for more targeted learning of historical periods and subjects depending on your interests.

Topics can include:

- global wars
- Indigenous Māori history
- colonisation
- ethnicity, racism, and history.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

A study in history teaches you a range of skills that lead to careers involving analysis, communication, creative thinking, and research.

Career pathways could include:

- media and communications
- curatorship
- political relations, foreign affairs, policy
- iwi engagement and development.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study History:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Humanitarian Work

If you are passionate about taking action to protect life and health, and ensure respect for others, then this pathway is perfect for you. Studying Humanitarian Work will give you the skills to better the lives of others.

What will my study involve?

- Learn about important social issues such as poor education and poverty, and gain the leadership skills to change things.
- Be part of UC's student community that has gained worldwide reputation for responding to crisis, disaster, and civil emergencies.
- Act now with off-campus and hands-on social projects and internships through the degree (eg, addressing topics such as climate change, young people's health and wellbeing, human trafficking; and planning events for the Rainbow community)

Courses

The Humanitarian Work pathway focuses on learning about and responding to inequalities and how they affect people in relation to their sexuality, gender, ethnicity, education, and ability.

Topics can include:

- identity and discrimination
- Aotearoa human services
- international relations
- culture, society, and ethics.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Coordinating change needs skills in leadership, management, and engagement, and your experiences from this degree will prepare you well to act on these.

Career pathways could include:

- disaster response
- social welfare
- non-governmental organisations
- community representation.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Humanitarian Work:

- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership
- Certificate of Youth and Community Leadership

Career pathways could include:

- youth and community development
- law enforcement
- corrections and probation
- health.

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Human Services

Human Services is all about working with people to create a healthy life for the community and make positive impacts in the world.

Human Services is one of the fastest growing employment fields in the world as it is incorporated in so many professions including education, law enforcement, and health.

What will my study involve?

- Five different topics: healthy lifestyles, crime and deviance, local and global communities, workplaces, and youth.
- Practice your research skills and investigate topics from an angle that interests you.
- This subject can be studied alongside many different degrees to strengthen your human service and social awareness skills.

Courses

First-year courses will introduce you to the fundamental issues society faces, with further study made up of courses that you are specifically interested in from themes such as culture, health, and organisational spaces.

Topics can include:

- social justice and changing politics
- family violence
- sex, sexuality, and state control
- ethics and empowerment in human services.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

The skills gained from Human Services will suit any industry that involves compassion for and working with people, such as education, health, social support, policy, and law enforcement.

Study Human Services:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Partnerships

Making a difference in our global sustainability will need the lived experiences of all cultures, building on the diversity of our world views and histories. Our efforts continue to recognise, engage with, and respect Indigenous and local knowledge as critical to effective problem-solving.

This major is for those who want to learn how to engage respectfully and effectively with mana whenua and other Indigenous communities to advance the aspirations of local communities and the goals of sustainability and wellbeing for all.

Be the next generation of kaitiaki and help others to grow.

What will my study involve?

- Learn about Māori and Pacific relationships with natural resources, and current issues in Aotearoa politics.
- Engage with local communities and iwi through field studies and an internship.
- Customisable major so you can follow your interests, such as in activism, policy, natural resource management, business, economics, and health.
- Develop collaboration and leadership values, including respect and understanding of manaakitanga (hospitality) and whakawhanaungatanga (connections).

Courses

This major will introduce you to a variety of sustainability concepts, and includes unique Indigenous knowledge, Aotearoa history, and cultural and political science.

Topics can include:

- cultural activism
- Māori and Indigenous development
- Aotearoa politics and policy
- environmental science and resource management.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Many industries seek out graduates with leadership skills and cultural awareness. This major will teach you how to build relationships and help communities, regions, and businesses transform their cultural values and sustainable practices.

Career pathways could include:

- government sectors
- advisory and project consultancy
- management
- communications and stakeholder engagement.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Social Action, Community and Global Development:

- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability

International Affairs Japanese

This specialisation combines foreign language with social sciences to understand international relations and political systems.

Study in International Affairs opens up your experiences beyond Aotearoa while also examining our bicultural society.

What will my study involve?

- A combination of language, political, and cultural studies.
- A choice in courses based on your individual and industry interests – history, politics, Māori culture, media and communications, and more.
- Opportunity to participate in a range of exchanges with UC's international exchange partners.

Courses

Courses of your choice in this specialisation are designed to give you a range of experiences, to develop knowledge of local and global industries.

In your first and second year, you will be required to complete language courses, with the opportunity to advance your skills in your final year.

Topics can include:

- domestic and international history
- identity and ethnicity
- foreign policy
- political uprisings.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

This degree will build career pathways in foreign affairs and international relations in government and non-government organisations. Skills such as multicultural awareness and communication will make you employable in Aotearoa and overseas.

Career pathways could include:

- media and communications
- diplomatic and international relations
- public sector
- foreign policy.

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Study International Affairs:

- Bachelor of Arts

Japan is one of the most influential nations in the Asia-Pacific region – culturally, economically, and diplomatically. The nation plays an important role in Aotearoa New Zealand's economy and learning Japanese will be a great asset to your studies.

Studies in Japanese involve more than just reading, writing, and speaking. It will also involve learning the culture and the impact it has on Aotearoa and the world.

What will my study involve?

- Become an expert in the Japanese language, history, and culture.
- Exchange programmes with various universities throughout Japan including Bunkyo University and Kwansai Gakuin University.
- Japanese can be studied alongside a range of bachelor's degrees, or you can complete a certificate or diploma in Japanese with other studies.

Courses

First-year courses are introductory level and are designed for those that have no prior knowledge to the language. Further courses will go on to intermediate and advanced-level Japanese studies.

If you know some Japanese already, then you may enter directly into second-year courses.

Topics can include:

- identity and culture
- film and literature
- art and architecture
- history.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Knowing languages is a highly sought-after skill. It helps with cross-cultural relationships and allows you to pursue a career in different parts of the world.

Many UC graduates have been granted opportunities to continue their studies or careers in Japan.

Career pathways can include:

- interpreting and translation
- tourism
- international relations
- education.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Japanese:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Languages
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Languages

Journalism

Journalism is more than reporting on current events – it is the research and analysis of ethical issues, audience needs, technology, and more – all produced in a fast-moving digital space.

Journalism is essential to our everyday lives, and this degree will allow you to enter in this critical workforce with the skills learned here at UC.

What will my study involve?

- A strong emphasis on practical learning with content creation for various media platforms and outlets.
- Opportunity to complete internships in your final year of studies with local newsrooms, print media, and other media industries.

- Flexibility to include other subjects alongside your journalism studies depending on your personal interests.

Courses

Gain experience in all aspects of Journalism including research, writing, interviewing, and analysis while applying them to various digital outlets.

Journalism-specific courses begin in your second year after completing broad communications courses in your first year.

Topics can include:

- media and content production
- disaster and crisis reporting
- media ethics
- news broadcasting.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

The Journalism major can lead to a range of different careers with opportunities abroad because of the fast-growing need for online media.

Career pathways could include:

- journalism
- public relations
- social media and digital marketing
- media production.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Journalism:

- Bachelor of Communication

Language, Brain and Behaviour

This specialisation is for those who are interested in psychology and language, and develops your understanding of how these shape our behaviour, identity, culture, and wellbeing.

What will my study involve?

- Hands-on testing in the lab to explore how the brain works, using modern computer labs designed for experiments in human performance, human-robot interactions, language cognition, social behaviour, and more.

- Take courses from a wide variety of subjects to customise your study, including psychology, social media, anthropology, and other languages.
- Benefit from UC's Te Kāhui Roro Reo | New Zealand Institute of Language, Brain and Behaviour, a multi-disciplinary centre dedicated to the study of human language.

Courses

Throughout your study you will explore neuropsychology, language learning, cultural development, and communication of language.

Topics can include:

- accents, local sayings, and other language diversity
- laboratory classes
- brain development over the lifespan
- communication devices.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

This specialisation will be of value to anyone wishing to continue on to areas such as language research or teaching, youth development, communication skills training, or development of new language technologies.

Career pathways could include:

- language technology development
- policy development
- data analysis
- teaching.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Language, Brain and Behaviour:

- Bachelor of Arts

Latin

Latin is one of the oldest languages in the western world, and many modern European languages such as Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, French, and English share their origins with this ancient language.

Studying Latin gives you an in-depth look at Ancient Rome, whose politics and culture have influenced the systems we use in the modern world today.

What will my study involve?

- Learn about the history and culture of Ancient Rome through its original language, epic poetry, letters, satire, and drama.
- Access to the Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities which contains artefacts, including inscriptions, of direct relevance to the literary world of the Romans.
- Study courses at Te Matatiki Toi Ora | Arts Centre campus.

Courses

The beginner Latin courses in the first year include reading Latin and grammar studies. Advanced Latin courses in the later years examine literary works and documents from Ancient Rome in their original language.

If you know some Latin already, then you may be given direct entry into second-year Latin courses.

Topics can include:

- Latin authors, such as Vergil and Cicero
- graffiti, inscriptions, and everyday Latin
- translation exercises
- Latin and evolution through modern European languages.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

As well as research and conservation work on Rome and the Ancient Mediterranean culture and artefacts, having advanced knowledge of Latin can be of use in industries such as government, law, medicine, and a variety of science fields.

Career pathways could include:

- museums and galleries
- publishing or editing
- teaching
- archaeology.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Latin:

- Certificate in Languages
- Diploma in Languages

Linguistics

Linguistics is the analysis of languages – from structure, how and why they change, to the way we learn and our unique way of speaking.

By understanding how language is a part of everything we do, you can better understand how communication shapes our identity, relationships, and way of life.

What will my study involve?

- Opportunity to learn from research conducted here at UC.
- UC offers many language studies to complement Linguistics, such as Te Reo Māori, Chinese, Russian, and Japanese.
- Study a minor in Linguistics within a range of bachelor's degrees so you can add communication skills and knowledge to other subjects.

Courses

In the first year, you will learn the basics of English language and Aotearoa New Zealand society, before going on to more advanced analysis and research of language meaning and psychology. You will also complete at least one course from a language other than English within your study.

Topics can include:

- phonetics
- forensic linguistics
- text analytics
- language acquisition and processing.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Because linguistics is a scientific field of study and involves other areas like history and culture, you gain an in-depth understanding of language, how the brain works, and the use of language in our world. You will learn skills like analysis, research, innovative thinking, problem-solving, and cross-cultural communication.

Career pathways could include:

- translation and interpreting
- marketing
- proofreading and editing
- language teaching.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Linguistics:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Science
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Science

Māori and Indigenous Studies

Māori and Indigenous Studies is a broad subject that explores the culture, knowledge, and philosophies of Māori and Indigenous peoples, and their economic, political, and social experiences.

These studies are increasingly seen as central to biculturalism in Aotearoa as well as in our global multicultural society.

What will my study involve?

- Study a range of historical and contemporary issues that Indigenous people face such as their relationship to science and politics, public services, and material culture.
- Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies operates as a whānau to help you explore the heritage of Aotearoa.
- Take this subject as a minor in a wide range of bachelor's degrees so you can combine your other subjects with mātauranga Māori.

Courses

Courses in this subject are open to everyone, even if you have not experienced Māori culture before. Topics will explore everything from cultural practice, colonial history, racism, and inequality, through to world impact from media, sport, and music.

Topics can include:

- philosophies and spiritual beliefs
- Māori film
- representation in media
- traditional and contemporary cultural practices.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Learning perspectives and history from Indigenous peoples is an important and rewarding skill to have, and is often looked for in employees, particularly in countries like Aotearoa and USA as they have a strong Indigenous presence.

Careers are opening in iwi and other Māori organisations, public health, research, teaching, government organisations, and the wider community.

Career pathways could include:

- policy analysis and advisory
- community development
- curator and collection management
- training and professional development.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Māori and Indigenous Studies:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Mathematical Sciences Education

Mathematical Sciences Education enables you to explore how mathematics, statistics, and data can inform and change how our society works.

In today's data-driven world, mathematics is increasingly important in technical analysis, policy making, education, health, media, and decision making. Mathematical Sciences Education allows you to balance developing your technical expertise in mathematics with the critical skills of communicating and problem solving.

What will my study involve?

- Develop your maths and teaching abilities with learning tools and methods such as applied mathematics, computer-assisted learning, and modern maths.

- Explore how maths, statistics, and data can inform and change how our society works, such as in policy and social contexts.
- Practical experiences tutoring in UC courses, workshops, schools, and community programmes.
- Prioritised pathway to becoming a registered maths or statistics teacher through one-year graduate teaching degrees at UC.

Courses

This major will introduce you to the science and psychology of examining and explaining complicated maths to others and includes a selection of mathematics topics each year of study so you can customise your knowledge.

Introductory courses are available for those without a strong background in maths or statistics study.

Topics can include:

- communicating maths
- how people learn
- statistics and social development
- tutoring practice.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Your study can open career pathways in fields needing graduates who can apply mathematical theory to make critical changes and examine social issues in areas such as policy, development, and research.

UC also offers a number of programmes to set you towards registration as a professional teacher in Aotearoa schools.

Career pathways could include:

- mathematics or statistics teacher
- data analyst
- policy advisor
- statistics researcher.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Mathematical Sciences Education:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science

Mathematics

Mathematics is at the forefront of breakthroughs in science, technology, and finance. It has been around for over 4,000 years and is still an innovative subject with new ideas, techniques, and theories constantly being created, tested, and explored.

Being a mathematician puts you one step ahead in preparing for the technological advances of the coming generation.

What will my study involve?

- Study topics such as pure and applied mathematics, modern mathematical theories, key uses, and breakthroughs in mathematical history.
- A wide range of mathematics courses to customise your study and gain skills towards particular career paths.
- Research projects within UC and in connection with industry.

Courses

First-year courses cover the basics of advanced mathematics such as calculus and linear algebra with later courses offering a wide range of topics to choose from, including mathematical philosophy, history, and culture.

We offer introductory maths courses for those who don't have a strong background in maths or statistics.

Topics can include:

- mathematical modelling
- dynamic and non-linear systems
- computational mathematics
- cryptography and coding theory.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Because maths is used almost everywhere, a Mathematics major will open up many different career options. Roles in information technologies, finance, business, scientific research, law, teaching, and other fields will make the most of your logical reasoning skills.

Career pathways could include:

- technology and product design
- research mathematician
- actuary
- fraud investigator.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Mathematics:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Science
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Science

Media and Communication

Communication shapes the world we live in – whether by media professionals, large organisations, or individuals.

By studying Media and Communication, you will learn how to analyse and produce communications and media, and how other people understand it within their own social worlds.

What will my study involve?

- Explore how media builds community, reinforces norms or drives social change, and how consumption of media affects culture, politics, and behaviour.
- Individual and group projects on multiple platforms – digital, television, podcasts, and more.
- Create relationships with professional media guest speakers from industry and benefit from presentations and seminars from guest lecturers from around the world.

Courses

In your first year, you will learn the basics of media and our society, including new forms of communication such as the digital and social media space. Further study can include practical internships in various industries.

Topics can include:

- social media
- advertising and strategic marketing
- news and political reporting
- media campaign management.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Media and Communication prepares you for a career in a communication industry or any profession that values communication with people and clients, from the news media to marketing to government.

Career pathways could include:

- communications and public relations
- social media and digital marketing
- web and app content creation
- journalism.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Media and Communication:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Bachelor of Communication
- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Music

The music industry has changed a lot in the last 30 years with the explosion of digital technology and changes in society and culture. This has opened up new job possibilities for music professionals, alongside teaching, conducting, leadership, and performing.

At UC, we have a number of ways you can follow your interest in Music.

What will my study involve?

- With a Bachelor of Music you can major in Composition, Performance, Music Studies, or Creative Music Technologies.
- You can study Music as a major or minor in other degrees.
- Enjoy the unique learning spaces in our Te Matatiki Toi Ora | Arts Centre campus.
- Connect with the community through internships, performances, and collaborative projects.

Courses

Most Music courses are available without any prior experience.

Courses in your first year will introduce you to the basics of music terminology, including reading, writing, and performing songs, and a first look at the global music industry.

Topics can include:

- song writing
- musical culture and performing arts
- audio and recording technologies
- performing music through singing or instrument.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

The wide range of courses you take during your degree will set you up with skills to perform, create, and critically engage with music and the music industry.

Career pathways could include:

- orchestras, choirs, and opera houses
- festival management
- journalism and radio
- digital production.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Music:

- Bachelor of Music

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Topics can include:

- history, politics and international relations
- identity, cultures and languages
- climate change, resilience and sustainability
- Pacific diaspora communities.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Aotearoa has strong connections with the Pacific islands and our political and multicultural identity is also changing as a result, so there are many different careers this study can lead you to.

Career pathways could include:

- community development
- diplomacy
- education
- archive curation and conservation.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Pacific Studies

The Pacific region makes up one third of the earth's surface, with diverse communities strong in innovation, Indigenous knowledge, resilience and identity.

You will navigate through the history of the Pacific Ocean and into contemporary issues of politics, climate change, and sustainability across the region, including the transnational nature of Pacific communities.

What will my study involve?

- Study a range of historical and contemporary issues that reflects Aotearoa New Zealand's place in the world as part of the Pacific region.
- Discover and analyse transnational power dynamics, security, and geopolitics.
- Learn about the rich diversity and contemporary issues of the Pacific.

Courses

These courses introduce you to all aspects of Pacific culture, from navigating the Pacific through to relations with neighbouring nations and foreign policies. These courses explore contemporary issues faced by Pacific peoples locally, regionally, and around the world.

Study Pacific Studies:

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Philosophy

Philosophy teaches you how to think rationally and carefully about complex questions such as: are drone strikes immoral? What about genetic engineering? Should rich countries give substantially more in overseas aid? Is time travel possible?

These skills are of real value in the workplace and help you to look at a problem from all angles and find out-of-the-box solutions.

What will my study involve?

- You can choose to specialise in areas such as ethics, bioethics, philosophy of science and technology, cognitive science and the mind, artificial intelligence, and language.
- There are specialised courses on famous figures such as Plato, Descartes, Wittgenstein, and Turing.
- Choose to add an internship to your study, gain work experience, meet potential employers, and build your CV.

Courses

First-year courses cover a broad range of topics to get you thinking critically about the world we live in.

Topics can include:

- the meaning of life and other big questions
- ethics, values, and morality
- science and religion
- artificial intelligence and human philosophy – consciousness, identity, free will.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

The intellectual skills that Philosophy teaches leads to success in many different careers. Many sectors increasingly require people who can think independently and creatively, write clearly, apply logic, solve abstract problems, and communicate precisely.

Career pathways could include:

- environmental advisory
- video game design
- ethics policy
- research management.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Philosophy:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Science
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Science

Philosophy, Politics and Economics

If you like to think about the problems and complexities of society, then consider this combination of subjects to develop a multidimensional way of seeing things.

You will learn about political institutions and economic systems, while exploring philosophical fundamentals of ethics and technology, and their impact on individuals and the wider public.

What will my study involve?

- Pick from a variety of courses and customise your study, with examples such as political parties and elections, environmental policy, humanitarian intervention, science and technology policy, and international security and international relations.
- Complete an internship or practical project in your final year reflecting your specific interest topics.

Courses

Each year of the degree, you will be able to choose your study focus based on your interests in politics and justice, ethics and morality, and economic systems.

Topics can include:

- global economy
- humanitarian politics and justice
- international trade policies
- black markets and international policing.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

This study provides you with vital skills for many national and international political institutions that make decisions about our world economy, from energy supply to imported goods to sustainability.

Career pathways could include:

- non-profit organisations and charities
- policy advisory
- parliament
- city councils.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Philosophy, Politics and Economics:

- Bachelor of Arts

Political Communication

Political Communication is about how we gather, analyse, and translate data on political topics such as international relations, public health risks, economical change, and foreign crises, in order to pass key information along to the public and other stakeholders.

This major is ideal if you want to be a direct part of the political process and help advance social change.

What will my study involve?

- Lead your own industry project or internship within the community.
- Choose courses that shape your communications skills and political knowledge, for example in international politics and relations, economics, and languages.

- Gain training in ethical media practice, including engaging communities, advocacy campaigns, and data analytics.
- Learn from UC's internationally renowned experts in political science, especially in areas such as humanitarian rights and intervention, EU and European politics, Chinese politics, and crisis communications.

Courses

First year will give you a broad introduction to media and communication. From second year, your courses will focus on communicating politics and learning how media can impact public opinions.

Topics can include:

- media and politics
- disaster and crisis communication
- cross-cultural and international media
- campaign project.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Skills in communicating complex information, analysing opinions, and researching important topics will prepare you well for roles in government, non-profit, corporate, and creative communication industries.

Career pathways could include:

- political journalism
- campaign management
- data analysis
- communications.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Political Communication:

- Bachelor of Communication

Political Science and International Relations

Political Science and International Relations is the study of our communities and how we make decisions collectively as governments, why we behave as we do as citizens, and how we make choices and changes for the future.

What will my study involve?

- Analyse how social change happens and how power and resources are allocated, with issues such as development, human rights, environment, nationalism, and foreign policy.
- Study topics are grouped into four areas; international relations, comparative politics (the study of other nations), public policy (how we make choices as communities), and political thought.
- Work with lecturers that are internationally recognised for their academic research and teaching strengths.
- Study a Political Science and International Relations minor alongside several degrees.

Courses

First year courses cover a wide variety of topics across Aotearoa and international politics designed to introduce you to analysing political systems and societies. After the first year, you will choose the direction of your political science studies with courses on economic and social development, international relations, philosophy, and more.

Topics can include:

- public policy
- Aotearoa international relations
- political revolts and uprisings
- global politics and issues (aid, climate change, humanitarianism).

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

You will gain a variety of skills that can be applied in a wide range of careers both within politics and in more diverse areas such as law, business, education, and journalism.

Career pathways could include:

- policy analysis
- parliamentary office
- foreign affairs
- diplomacy.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Political Science and International Relations:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Professional and Community Engagement

Professional and Community Engagement (PACE) courses are all about applying what you learn in your studies to a non-academic "real-world" setting.

PACE is an ideal complement to your degree – take it as a one-off course or as a minor in your degree programme. PACE courses provide an opportunity to give you confidence in the workplace.

What will my study involve?

- Half of PACE courses are held as workshops where you can develop professional skills and half in the workspace where you can put that knowledge to use.
- You will be matched with your internship based on your studies and your interests. Past internships include media and communications, event organisation, marketing, health, and policy analysis.

Courses

From second year, you can add a workplace project or an internship to your studies.

Topics can include:

- internship projects (based on your degree subject)
- project management process
- career development portfolio and CV building
- presentation skills.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

PACE students have an edge over other graduates. Learning to identify the strengths you bring to the workplace and understanding how your degree has prepared you to work with local and international communities will give you the confidence you need to enter your new career.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study PACE:

PACE can be taken as a one-off course in many degrees, or studied as a minor in some degrees. Learn more about PACE on our website.

Psychology

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and associated biological, cognitive, and social processes in humans and other animals.

Studying Psychology will explore how the brain works, and looks into theories to gain an understanding of behaviour in individuals and groups.

What will my study involve?

- Explore a range of psychopathologies such as anxiety, depression, and addiction with leading experts and researchers.
- Practical lab work where you will be able to perform physical assessments.
- UC has a Psychology Clinic where you can receive training, and has working relationships with Te Whatu Ora Health | New Zealand Waitaha Canterbury, and Ara Poutama Aotearoa | Department of Corrections, offering opportunities for research and clinical internships.
- Psychology can be studied in many bachelor's degrees, can be customised to your specific preferences, and complement your other studies.

Courses

Begin your studies with the basics of psychology – the science of the brain and personality. Later you will learn more in-depth topics in psychology and develop your data and analytical skills.

Topics can include:

- biological psychology
- social change and learned behaviours
- neurodiversity
- forensic and criminal psychology.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Studying Psychology at UC will open up careers in many different fields due to the unique set of skills you learn. Further postgraduate study can lead to professional registration as a child and family psychologist or clinical psychologist.

Career pathways could include:

- police, corrections, and other public sectors
- district health boards
- public relations and marketing
- social service agencies.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Psychology:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Science

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Health Sciences
- Certificate in Science
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Health Sciences
- Diploma in Science

Russian

Russian is spoken by over 150 million people, and is one of the six official languages of the United Nations. The opening of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union since the Cold War has seen growth opportunities in independent trade, the entertainment industry, and international business.

What will my study involve?

- Learn Russian and take courses in Russian history from the middle ages to the present day, including literature, film, and culture.
- Study the only major in Russian in Aotearoa, or combine a minor in Russian with a wide variety of bachelor's degrees.

Courses

Our language courses teach elementary-level Russian through to advanced level. From second year, you can begin classes that explore the social, political, and cultural history of Russia, such as the Space Race and aerospace engineering.

If you know some Russian, then you may be given direct entry into second-year courses.

Topics can include:

- World War history
- the Tsardom of Russia
- Stalinism
- Russia and 21st century politics.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

By learning a second language, you open yourself up to a wide variety of careers within Aotearoa and abroad. Russian in particular presents a unique opportunity to be a part of one of the most populous European countries that continues to make world history.

Career pathways could include:

- translation and interpreting
- international relations
- foreign policy
- journalism.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Russian:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Languages
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Languages

Social Action, Community and Global Development

Help solve some of the major issues we are facing globally with studies on environmental, social, and political change.

Learn how to create campaigns that deal with problems caused by the ways we interact with the environment, from the hunger crisis to global poverty, renewable energy to pollution, city development to climate change.

What will my study involve?

- Develop real social movements and awareness projects through an internship.
- Study a wide range of optional courses from sociology and psychology, politics, international relations, media, geography, environmental studies, and community development.
- Customisable major so you can follow your interests on global or local social issues, communities, and environmental problems.

Courses

Choose from a variety of courses that introduce you to sustainability issues and how to create solutions to these, whether through official channels, media awareness, community engagement, or beyond.

Topics can include:

- environmental and human health
- policy
- international aid
- global sustainability campaigns.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Awareness of global issues, and skills in project management, leadership, communication, and critical analysis will equip you to make real and meaningful changes to our environmental and human systems, and empower others.

Career pathways could include:

- politics
- non-profit sector
- human services
- humanitarian aid programmes.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Social Action, Community and Global Development:

- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability

Social Activism

Social Activism uses your passions and experiences to make positive changes for others. Studying this pathway will teach you how to recognise inequality and inequity, to help those who are disadvantaged or mistreated, and to raise awareness on issues that need more support at a higher political level.

What will my study involve?

- Explore social issues like ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class that can lead to inequities in education, political power, and opportunity.
- Become a leader in social and community settings to drive social change in local, national, or international communities.

- Customise your degree with courses in other subjects so you can prepare to tackle the social issues you care about most.
- Act now with off-campus and hands-on projects and internships about climate change, youth health and wellbeing, human trafficking, and the Rainbow community.

Courses

The courses in this pathway will introduce you to the powerful effects of community action, volunteering, policy, and media awareness towards social issues, and give you opportunities to learn about Aotearoa and global-scale movements.

Topics can include:

- Aotearoa politics
- media impact on public opinions, politics, and history
- social transformation
- global powers and processes.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Finding solutions, advocating for others, and actioning change are all unique abilities that this study will train you to have.

Career pathways could include:

- human rights advocacy
- community engagement
- political campaigner
- lobbyist.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Social Activism:

- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership
- Certificate of Youth and Community Leadership

Social Entrepreneurship

This pathway is the perfect option if you wish to make an impact on social needs through entrepreneurship. You will develop leadership skills paired with key insights in marketing, management, and social entrepreneurship.

What will my study involve?

- Learn leadership skills and how to create a product, business, service, or campaign idea that will make positive changes to our communities.
- Act now with off-campus and hands-on projects and internships so you can start making change while studying (e.g., addressing topics such as climate change, young people's health and wellbeing, human trafficking, and planning events for the Rainbow community).
- Connect with Te Pokapū Rakahinonga | UC Centre for Entrepreneurship to get mentoring, resources, and contacts in creating your business ideas.

Courses

The first year in this pathway introduces you to leadership and management skills, as well as looking at case studies in Ōtautahi Christchurch of how volunteering and community-led projects have made a real difference. There are many course options to focus your degree towards your ideal career in social entrepreneurship.

Topics can include:

- community activism
- markets, consumers, and sustainability practices
- business management
- global business ethics.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Alongside business knowledge, an awareness of social campaigns, sustainability goals, and ethical values of consumers and communities will make you a unique leader in the corporate industry.

Career pathways could include:

- advocacy
- campaign and event management
- entrepreneur
- business consulting.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Social Entrepreneurship:

- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership
- Certificate of Youth and Community Leadership

Social Work

Social workers help people to overcome personal and institutional barriers to wellbeing and achieve their full potential. They work with individuals, families, groups, and organisations in a wide range of contexts.

Studying Social Work is a great option to consider if you are interested in working in a people-focused career. Professionally trained people are needed in increasing numbers to work in the social services, nationally and internationally.

What will my study involve?

- Learn about a wide variety of topics such as mental health, child welfare, criminal justice, ageing, violence and abuse, and gender and sexuality.
- Small, interactive classes so you can work closely with staff and other students.
- Practical learning throughout the degree, with 75% of your final year in fieldwork placements within social service agencies around Aotearoa.
- The Bachelor of Social Work with Honours is recognised by Kahui Whakamana Tauwhiro | New Zealand Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB) and internationally so you can work overseas.

Courses

The first year of the Social Work degree will introduce you to Social Work services and practices in Aotearoa. The later years of the degree will go into more complex topics so you can analyse and debate on current issues within Aotearoa such as welfare systems, discrimination, domestic abuse, and mental health.

Topics can include:

- social services
- social policy
- realities that current youth face
- work placements and social work practice.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

The combination of theory and practice sets you up with the values, knowledge, and skills needed to work in the social work profession. You may go on to working directly with affected people, or on to social sector policy and make changes within the overall system.

Career pathways could include:

- social work
- policy analyst
- community development
- youth work.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Social Work:

- Bachelor of Social Work with Honours

Society, Diversity and Change

Society, Diversity and Change focuses on the complex issues that form around community, identity, and social revolutions.

Studying this subject will challenge your thinking about the world and the people who live in it, and equip you to create positive changes.

What will my study involve?

- Understand how issues such as education, social status, ethnicity, and gender relate to and affect equity in society with UC's research speciality in services, activism, and youth work.
- Develop actionable skills to improve local and global movements and challenges of your choice with a final-year internship placing you in the workplace.

Courses

Through the courses in this programme, you will be able to explore diversity and equity outcomes that affect you or best suit your interests. The final year also presents an opportunity to gain real-world experience through an internship.

Topics can include:

- equality vs equity
- online spaces and homogenised culture
- youth and developing identities
- poverty and the increasing wealth gap.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Your studies will help you learn how we can improve equity outcomes by generating social transformation. This can lead to a variety of career options working with and on behalf of others, from human services to advocacy to politics.

Career pathways could include:

- civil services
- youth work and development
- professional training and education
- non-profit sectors.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Society, Diversity and Change:

- Bachelor of Arts

Sociology

Take a look at the modern world and how it came to be the way it is. Sociologists investigate the structure of societies, organisations, groups, and everyday lives.

This subject can cover a range of social contexts including the intimacy of families, criminal gangs, activities at a rugby game or rock festival, through to divisions of ethnicity, gender, and class.

What will my study involve?

- Take courses as diverse as crime and justice, religion, health, gender and sexualities, death, and migration.
- Flexible course options so you can study a field of Sociology that suits your specific interests.
- Courses are hands-on and you will have the opportunity to do meaningful research, to create and analyse evidence, and to draw your own conclusions.

Courses

First year Sociology courses are designed to explore people and society and introduce you to the process of analysis.

Topics can include:

- history of gangs in New Zealand
- global society
- crime and justice
- ethnicity, racism, and history.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

The broad skills gained from a Sociology major such as research, writing, critical thinking, and communication are all highly valued by employers. You will be able to apply your core Sociology learnings to different aspects of life and work.

Career pathways could include:

- human resources
- marketing, media, and public relations
- policy analysis
- social research.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Sociology:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Diploma in Arts

Spanish

Spanish is as universal as English with the largest concentration of speakers in Spain, Central and Latin America, and the USA.

Learning Spanish will not only open you up to their beautiful cultures, but also to job opportunities in any part of the world.

What will my study involve?

- Staff will work closely with you in your language and Hispanic culture classes.
- Option to do an exchange with a Spanish university where you can practise your language and culture skills by studying abroad.
- You can study Spanish within a range of different bachelor's degrees, or you can also add a certificate or diploma in Spanish language alongside your other studies.

Courses

No prior knowledge is needed to study Spanish at UC. You can start with elementary Spanish in your first year, then advance from there.

Spanish courses will give you an insight into the mix of old and new traditions that form Spanish-speaking cultures.

If you know some Spanish already, then you may be given direct entry into second-year Spanish courses.

Topics can include:

- film and music
- different cultures of the Spanish-speaking world
- conversation
- civilisation and culture.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Through your studies you will learn skills in intercultural communication, as well as growing your understanding of the way global interactions shape society.

Career pathways could include:

- interpreting and translation
- international law
- policy analysis
- journalism.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Spanish:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Languages
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Languages

Statistics

Statistics makes sense of data using mathematical modelling to explain what is observed and to predict what is yet unknown.

There are many areas in which statistics helps us to understand what is going on and to predict what is likely to happen in the future, from climate change to the economy to medicine.

What will my study involve?

- Learn statistical processes and techniques, including collecting data, choosing methods, and communicating results.
- Take part in research and projects while working with visiting experts, research centres, and potential employers.
- Study Statistics in a wide range of degrees to add data knowledge to your other interests.

Your first-year courses are introductory and will teach you the basics of statistics, including maths and computer programming. You will get to choose your courses in the later years from a range of topics from algorithms to interpreting datasets to completing your own statistics work projects.

Topics can include:

- software training (eg, R, Python, and Julia)
- computer modelling
- prediction and probabilities
- sampling and survey methods.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Statistics opens up career possibilities in many industries such as finance and insurance, business, government, and research. These institutions and companies are looking for people able to collect the relevant data, model it, and communicate the results.

Career pathways could include:

- epidemiologist
- GIS expert
- data analyst
- risk surveyor.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Statistics:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Science

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Science
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Science

Sustainable Business, Enterprise and Economics

With businesses expanding across the globe, we need more people with the skills to help manage economic growth with environmental issues like pollution and use of natural resources.

This major covers everything from sustainable products, production, shipping, and marketing, through to influencing changes in customer spending habits.

What will my study involve?

- Get hands-on experience creating sustainable business solutions through an internship.
- Learn business basics of management, economics, accounting, marketing, or communications with how these affect our views and treatment of the environment.
- Opportunities to create your own business with UC's mentors, business connections, and a Makerspace.

- Customisable major so you can follow your interests in particular sustainability issues and industry.

Courses

The first year allows you to choose from a range of introductory business courses so you can learn the fundamentals of running a business and study sustainability issues that interest you.

Topics can include:

- environmental economics
- business organisation
- natural resources and supply chain management
- media and marketing.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Every industry needs to find more sustainable practices, and there are few people in the current job market with knowledge of both business economics and environmental science to help achieve this. Your problem-solving skills will help lead us to better corporate responsibility and sustainable consumption of goods.

Career pathways could include:

- management
- business analysis and consulting
- marketing
- entrepreneurship.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Sustainable Business, Enterprise and Economics:

- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability

Tauwhitinga Māori: Māori Communication Strategy and Practice

Māori communication is very important for businesses in Aotearoa, as they are increasingly looking for ways to include Māori culture and heritage in their media, advertising, communications, and everyday practices.

This major is ideal for anyone looking to bring about social change, and help industries engage strongly with our bicultural nation.

What will my study involve?

- Specialised knowledge as this is the only major of its kind in Aotearoa on Māori communication strategy and Kaupapa Māori (values and goals) in professional workplaces.
- Learn to create public-facing content representing Māori, from print to television to social media.
- Internship projects during your degree will place you within iwi businesses, communication agencies, and other local UC contacts.
- This major can be studied alongside other courses such as Te Reo Māori, History, and Geography.

Courses

Specific courses for this major begin in the second year of the degree, where you can advance your communication skills through Māori media channels, and explore how Māori values and traditions can adapt to media and cultural shifts.

Topics can include:

- Māori transformation in modern society
- campaign messaging and advertising
- television and film industry
- Māori as changemakers and trendsetters.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Bicultural practice and expertise are in high demand in many industries. You will be particularly good at advising or creating content for iwi, government, creative, education, or business communication.

You may even find work internationally in places where experience in Indigenous communications and engagement are especially needed, for example in Australia, Canada, and the USA.

Career pathways could include:

- marketing analysis
- media content creation
- public outreach and relations
- campaign management.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Tauwhitinga Māori:

- Bachelor of Communication

Te Reo Māori

Learning te reo Māori enables us to explore our identity as New Zealanders and pass on our passion to others and future generations.

Te Reo Māori is a highly recommended study option for those who might work with Indigenous people or industries, or in education, public, or communications roles that require bicultural and multicultural competency.

What will my study involve?

- Develop your reo skills and learn about language revitalisation, bilingual/immersion education, reo history, and contemporary language.
- Take part in wānanga reo (language immersion field trips) to local marae.
- Be a part of our whānau at Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies with support and guidance in and out of classes.
- Complete a minor in Te Reo Māori within many bachelor's degrees to combine language skills with your other study interests.

Courses

No previous experience of te reo Māori is required for first year courses, with later courses advancing you through to fluency level.

If you know some te reo Māori already, then you may be given direct entry into second-year te reo Māori courses.

Topics can include:

- contemporary reo language
- oral and written traditions
- kapa haka and performance
- film, music, and media.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Careers are opening up with the increasing role of Māori as a defining element of our national culture. Te Reo Māori skills are sought after in health, media, government, tourism, social services, and many other industries.

Career pathways could include:

- community leadership
- journalism
- heritage and cultural organisations
- interpreting and translation.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Te Reo Māori:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Arts

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport
- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Arts
- Certificate in Languages
- Diploma in Arts
- Diploma in Languages

Youth Work and Development

The Youth Work and Development pathway is the perfect option for you if you want to make an impact in the lives of youth and their whānau. Working with young people is an immensely rewarding career where you mentor and lead young people to reach their full potential.

What will my study involve?

- Learn about the expectations and challenges of growing up in today's society, and develop leadership skills to help find their potential.
- Act now with off-campus and hands-on projects and internships so you can start making change while studying (eg, addressing topics such as climate change, young people's health and wellbeing, human trafficking, and planning events for the Rainbow community).
- Only university degree in Aotearoa that meets the requirements for professional membership with Korowai Tupu | Professional Association for Youth Work in Aotearoa.

Courses

This pathway includes select courses that prepare you to be a professional youth worker. These courses will examine the issues young people face today — from identity to sexuality to online spaces — while building your leadership skills with practical projects and internships.

Topics can include:

- leadership strategies
- youth rights and discrimination
- how children and teenagers develop
- refugees, minorities, and Indigenous communities.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Supporting and inspiring youth from a place of knowledge and understanding leads to many rewarding work roles.

Training in youth work opens up career possibilities in social and human services, iwi, and educational spaces connecting directly with Aotearoa youth, or through making positive changes at a higher level to the systems that affect their rights and wellbeing.

Career pathways could include:

- youth worker
- community development worker
- programme coordinator
- welfare supporter.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Youth Work and Development:

- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership
- Certificate of Youth and Community Leadership

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Psychological Science

Youth and Community Leadership

Youth and Community Leadership explores national and global challenges that impact today's youth and our communities, and looks at ways to create meaningful change through leadership.

You can study a range of issues like social justice, sustainability, policy, and equity. You can also focus on communities that you want to make a difference in.

What will my study involve?

- Work closely with UC's active student community who have led efforts in natural disaster relief, social causes, wellbeing, sustainability, and cultural diversity.
- Connect with community through noho marae, volunteering with Te Hunga Tūao | Student Volunteer Army, and work with Te Mātāpuna Mātātahi | Children's University.
- On completion of the recommended courses for youth work and development, you can apply for membership to Korowai Tupu, the Professional Association for Youth Work in Aotearoa.
- Act now with off-campus and hands-on projects and internships so you can start making change while studying (eg, addressing topics such as climate change, young people's health and wellbeing, human trafficking, and planning events for the Rainbow community).

Courses

First-year courses introduce you to your role in youth and community leadership. This involves building self-awareness and engaging with mātauranga Māori perspectives. You will also learn about youth work as a professional practice in Aotearoa.

Topics can include:

- group leadership
- community engagement
- cultural activism
- social justice and globalisation.

canterbury.ac.nz/courseinfo

Career opportunities

Develop skills in leadership, entrepreneurship, project management, bicultural competence, collaboration, and community engagement to get you ready for a career with youth and community. What you will learn can be applied to community leadership worldwide.

Career pathways could include:

- youth work
- policy analysis and advisory
- iwi and Māori development
- teaching and training.

canterbury.ac.nz/life/jobs-and-careers

Study Youth and Community Leadership:

As a Major:

- Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership

As a Minor:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Digital Screen with Honours
- Bachelor of Health Sciences
- Bachelor of Product Design
- Bachelor of Science
- Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability
- Bachelor of Sport

Other pathways:

- Certificate in Youth and Community Leadership

Tohu Qualifications



Bachelor of Arts. BA

Bachelor of Arts – Major/minor pathway example degree structure

Year 1

ARTS102 or MAOR165 or WRIT101	ARTS102 or MAOR165 or WRIT101	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level
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Year 2

200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	100 Level
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Year 3

300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	200 Level	200 Level
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Compulsory courses
 Major courses
 Minor courses
 Other Arts courses
 Courses from Arts or other degrees

Each small block represents a 15-point course. However, some courses may be 30 points or more.

With 40 subjects to choose from, BA students can follow their passion and gain valuable skills.

Over the three years of your degree, you will gain the critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and communication skills that employers want. Unique practical experiences such as internships are on offer too.

BA with two pathways

You have the option of following the traditional pathway to gain a major and a minor in the BA or to take the specialisation pathway with a set programme of courses.

In your first year, you will choose two broad arts skill courses from:

- academic writing
- critical thinking
- bicultural identity.

Major and minor pathway

There are over 30 Arts subjects that you can major in and many more minors – including subjects from other degrees. You can choose to do a double major, or a major and minor.

You can customise your study even further by doing a double or a conjoint degree (see [page 7](#)) – tailoring your studies to suit you.

Subjects		
Anthropology	French	Philosophy
Art History and Theory	Geography	Political Science and International Relations
Chinese	German	Professional and Community Engagement (minor only)
Cinema Studies	History	Pacific Studies (minor only)
Classics	Human Services	Psychology
Community Music (minor only)	Japanese	Russian
Cultural Studies (minor only)	Linguistics	Sociology
Digital Humanities (minor only)	Māori and Indigenous Studies	Spanish
Economics	Mathematical Sciences Education	Statistics
Education	Mathematics	Te Reo Māori
English	Media and Communication	
European and European Union Studies	Music	

Bachelor of Arts – Specialisation pathway example degree structure

Year 1

ARTS102 or MAOR165 or WRIT101	ARTS102 or MAOR165 or WRIT101	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level
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Year 2

200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	100 Level
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Year 3

300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	200 Level	200 Level
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Compulsory courses
 Specialisation courses
 Courses from Arts or other degrees

Each small block represents a 15-point course. However, some courses may be 30 points or more.

Specialisation pathway

Choosing a Specialisation in the BA provides you with a set programme of courses centred on a broad theme. Specialisations are bigger than a typical major and they include courses from a range of subjects, so you can look at the complex problems of today's society from different angles.

Specialisations
Creative Industries and Contemporary Practice
Cultural Heritage
Global Societies and Cultures
International Affairs
Language, Brain and Behaviour
Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Society, Diversity and Change

Highlights

- Many courses offer field trips, real-world case studies, performances, internships, and community projects.
- You have the option to study a minor from additional subjects across Arts, Commerce, Digital Screen, Health Sciences, Product Design, Science, Sport, and Youth and Community Leadership.
- Get involved with some of the many Arts related student clubs including Arts Society, Japan Society, Classics Society, and Music Society.

• Career ready

- Gain practical experience by adding an internship in your second or third year of study.
- Learn sought after workplace skills such as writing, critical and creative thinking, problem-solving, and communication.
- Graduates will be ready to work in media, politics, conservation, iwi organisations, tourism, heritage, international relations, and more.

Bachelor of Communication. BC

Bachelor of Communication – example degree structure

Year 1

COMS 101	COMS 105	MGMT 100	WRIT 101	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level
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Year 2

COMS 201	COMS 207	COMS 231	DIGI 204	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	100 Level
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Year 3

COMS 330	300 Level	300 Level	200 Level or above	200 Level or above
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Compulsory courses
 Major courses
 Courses from Bachelor of Communication or other degrees (must include at least 30 points from the BA)

Each small block represents a 15-point course. However, some courses may be 30 points or more.

With a BC, you will develop skills in media content production, planning, and research in international and national contexts.

You will have the opportunity to use a variety of communication technologies, including digital, audio and visual, and social media in areas like journalism, creative projects, and communications scenarios catering to different audiences. You will also learn to meet strategic goals of corporates and drivers of social change.

Study information

In the first year of your degree, you will get a broad introduction to communication through courses in writing, journalism, media, and management.

From second year, you will also begin courses towards your chosen major.

Subjects
Communication Strategy and Practice
Journalism
Political Communication
Tauwhitinga Māori: Māori Communication Strategy and Practice

Highlights

- Opportunities to use your skills in practical ways, including working with local organisations, and with a variety of communication technologies including digital, audio and visual, and social media platforms.
- Placements in local newsrooms as part of the Journalism major.
- Tauwhitinga Māori is the only Māori communications major on offer in Aotearoa.
- With links to international partners in journalism and media studies, we offer guest lectures from global experts each semester.

Career ready

- Get workplace experience through internships, industry projects, or community campaigns within local businesses.
- Gain applied knowledge in new and emerging media, collection and usage of data, media ethical practice, critical thinking, and analysis skills.
- Develop your skills and confidence to represent our bicultural nation through our media.
- Graduates will be ready to work as journalists, social media managers, marketers, crisis communication advisors, event managers, editors, and more.

Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability. BSEnS

Bachelor of Social and Environmental Sustainability– example degree structure

Year 1

SENS 101	ENVR 101	MAOR 108	WRIT 101	ARTS102 or STAT101	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level
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Year 2

SENS 201	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	100 Level
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Year 3

SENS 301	PACE 295	300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	300 Level	200 Level
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Compulsory courses
 Major courses
 Courses from Arts or other degrees

Each small block represents a 15-point course. However, some courses may be 30 points or more.

The BSEnS explores the biggest problems we face globally, from pollution and climate change to world hunger.

You will gain meaningful skills including understanding how and why these issues happen, and the actionable steps we need to change these.

Help us build a sustainable and equitable future in business, policy, and global society.

Study information

Subjects
Environmental Policy, Governance and Social Justice
Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Partnerships
Social Action, Community and Global Development
Sustainable Business, Enterprise and Economics

Highlights

- Courses come from a variety of different subjects – including Environmental Science, Policy, and Marketing – so you can get a full view of the global issues that you are passionate about and learn how you can achieve behaviour change and social action.
- Use UC's local and global contacts with entrepreneurs, environmental scientists, tangata whenua, and other change makers.
- You can take a minor from subjects across Arts, Commerce, Digital Screen, Health Sciences, Product Design, Science, Sport, and Youth and Community Leadership.

Career ready

- Complete a final-year internship supporting our local industry in sustainability.
- Knowing how to identify, critique, and actually make these necessary changes will make you hugely beneficial to our collective goal to make the world a better place.
- Graduates will find work as consultants, policy analysts, aid and advocacy workers, environmental advisors, economists, business managers, entrepreneurs, and more.

Bachelor of Social Work with Honours. BSW(Hons)

Bachelor of Social Work with Honours – example degree structure

Year 1

SOWK 101	SOWK 102	HLTH 106	PACS 111	MAOR 108 or 165	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level
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Year 2

SOWK 202	SOWK 203	SOWK 205	SOWK 206	SOWK 212	MAOR 212	MAOR 219	200 Level
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Year 3

SOWK 301	SOWK 303	SOWK 304	SOWK 308	SOWK 340
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Year 4

SOWK 490	SOWK 491	SOWK 492
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Compulsory courses
 Elective course

Each small block represents a 15-point course. However, some courses may be 30 points or more.

The BSW(Hons) at UC is Aotearoa New Zealand's most established Social Work programme. This highly regarded interdisciplinary degree will engage you in both theory and practice, preparing you for a wide range of people-related work.

The BSW(Hons) is ideal for those with a commitment to working with others in overcoming personal and institutional barriers to wellbeing, and promoting the full potential of people.

Study information

In the first year of your degree, you will study five compulsory courses that give you an introduction to social services in Aotearoa, and cover some of the issues that impact and shape our society. Your remaining courses will come from Anthropology, Criminal Justice, Education, Māori and Indigenous Studies, Pacific Studies, Political Science and International Relations, Psychology, Sociology, Te Reo Māori, or Academic Writing.

In your second year, you will explore communication in the human services, human behaviour and development, social policy, diversity and culture, and Māori and Indigenous development.

Entry into the second year and beyond requires a special application.

Highlights

- Follow your interests in topics such as mental health, child welfare, criminal justice, ageing, violence and abuse, and gender and sexuality.
- In fourth year, 75% of your study is made up of fieldwork placements in social service agencies.
- Small class sizes allow you to work closely with staff and other students.
- This degree sets you up to work in the social work field in Aotearoa or overseas, particularly in the UK and Australia where there is a Mutual Recognition Agreement between the NZSWRB and the Australian Association of Social Workers.

Career ready

- Gain practical experience through the two fieldwork placements in the fourth year of your degree.
- The combination of theory and practice sets you up with the values, knowledge, and skills needed to work in the social work profession.
- Graduates are working as community development workers, counsellors, social workers, youth workers, policy analysts, educators, and more.

Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership. BYCL

Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership – example degree structure

Year 1

YACL 101	CHCH 101	EDUC 101 or 102 or POLS103	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level	100 Level
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Year 2

YACL 201	EDUC 206	CULT202 or EDUC204 or INOV290	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	200 Level	100 Level
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Year 3

EDUC 302 or 339	YACL 301	YACL 302	300 Level	300 Level	200 Level	200 Level
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Compulsory courses
 Elective courses
 Courses from Arts or other degrees

Each small block represents a 15-point course. However, some courses may be 30 points or more.

The BYCL builds on UC's reputation in youth-led social action and offers real-world leadership and project experience.

Study information

In the first year of your degree, you will take introductory courses on leadership skills, understanding communities, identifying areas in need of change, and creating group projects.

From second year, you will explore team leadership and training, potential boundaries for change, cultural and political influences, and build your research and management skills.

Courses	
YACL101	Introduction to Youth Leadership: Leading the Self
CHCH101	Strengthening Communities through Social Innovation
EDUC101 or EDUC102 or POLS103	Spark! The Art and Science of Learning, or Child and Adolescent Development, or Introduction to New Zealand Politics and Policy

Highlights

- Flexible degree that allows you to choose courses from other degrees and study the subjects and issues that matter most to you.
- Connect with UC's community through noho marae, volunteering with Te Hunga Tūao | Student Volunteer Army, and working with Te Mātāpuna Mātātahi | Children's University.

- You have the option to add a minor from subjects across Arts, Commerce, Digital Screen, Health Sciences, Product Design, Science, and Sport.
- On completion of the recommended courses for youth work and development you can apply for membership to Korowai Tupu, the professional Association for Youth Workers in Aotearoa.

Career ready

- Practical experience through work with UC community organisations.
- Develop skills in leadership, communication, project management, stakeholder engagement, research, and solution-based thinking to help create real results.
- Graduates will be ready to work as leaders of their area of interest, including politics, teaching, iwi development, community services, charities, and marketing.

Ka whai ake nei Next Steps



Key dates



May/June/July
Hui Tairanga
Information Evenings



August
Accommodation
applications open



July
Scholarship
applications open



October
Enrol into courses



September
Rā Tōmene | Open day

Some degrees and subjects like Fine Arts, Music, Performance, and Teaching have additional application processes and dates. For exact information, please visit the UC website or contact a Future Student Advisor.

Tautoko | Get support



From the moment you arrive on campus to your graduation, UC has support available every step of the way.

Te Pātaka | Student Services Hub is your go-to support centre, located on levels 2 and 3 in the Puaka-James Hight building (central library). You will find both academic and wellbeing services in one location and they will connect you to the relevant support teams.

You can receive help with anything you need, whether that's for study and exams, health, sport, counselling, injuries, job search, and more.

Read more about all the support services:



Your students' association

Te Rōpū Ākonga o Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury Students' Association (UCSA) is a non-profit organisation that helps all students find support and feel like they belong at UC.

We have more than 160 clubs and regularly host events on campus.

We offer advocacy services, dental and optometry services, welfare and financial services, advisory groups, class reps, and more.

ucsa.org.nz



Pastoral Care

The Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021 is designed to guide institutions in their practice and to protect students when they study in Aotearoa. UC is a signatory to the Code and is required to meet the standards set by the New Zealand government.



“Within my class, we’re all very much a whānau. We’ve built a connection, going from strangers to family, which is a credit to our teachers for creating that environment of safety and belonging — that’s whanaugatanga. And tiakitanga reminds me of the whole UC experience — everyone doing what they can.”

QeyLoux

Ngāti Kuri, Kāi Tahu, Ngāti Porou

Ako: Bachelor of Teaching and Learning in Mātauranga Māori

Whakapā mai | Contact us



Get in touch

If you would like more information about what you can study at UC, contact the Future Students Office:



Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha University of Canterbury

T: +64 3 369 3999
Freephone in NZ: 0800 VARSITY (827 748)
E: info@canterbury.ac.nz
AskUC Chat is available between
8am–5.15pm Monday–Friday
(except NZ public holidays).
[canterbury.ac.nz](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz)

Talk to a UC student

Get answers to your questions about what it's like being a student at UC, and life in Ōtautahi Christchurch.



UC social media

 facebook.com/universitycanterbury

 instagram.com/ucnz

 x.com/ucnz

 snapchat.com/add/uc.nz

 youtube.com/UniversityCanterbury

 linkedin.com/school/university-of-canterbury

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CHRISTCHURCH
FESTIVAL**



Rā Tōmene Open Day

Discover your degree options.
Explore our campus.
Experience student life.

5 September 2025



For more information,
contact a Future
Student Advisor.