



University
of Otago
ŌTĀKOU WHAKAIHU WAKA

2027

Undergraduate Prospectus
Puka Whakamahuki Tohu Paetahi



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Why Otago?

Inspiring teaching

We're committed to high-quality, innovative teaching to help you reach your full potential.

World-changing research

Our academics are leaders in their fields, conducting groundbreaking research that makes a positive difference to our world.

Destination Dunedin

Located in the heart of a thriving city and surrounded by natural beauty, Dunedin offers an inspiring environment to live and study.

Meet lifelong friends

Our staff and students come from all around the world, providing a global perspective and a friendly, welcoming community.

Residential colleges

Living in one of our 15 colleges puts you in the heart of the action and helps make the transition to university easier.

Support and wellbeing

You don't have to figure everything out on your own. We offer a range of support services to make your time here as stress-free and successful as possible.

Inspiring teaching



Te whakaako whakaaweawe

Choosing the University of Otago means joining a prestigious academic community. Founded in 1869, we're ranked in the top 200 universities in the world.

What lights you up?

From Computer Science, Marketing, and Music, to Medicine, Neuroscience, and Psychology, our 200+ programmes provide opportunities to explore your passions and set yourself up for career success.



"The teaching staff were knowledgeable, approachable, and genuinely passionate about what they teach. They made learning feel fun and inspiring, even when the topics were challenging."

Olivia Andrew

Bachelor of Commerce and Science
(Majors: Information Science, Marketing)



#1

in
New Zealand
for student
academic
performance

95%

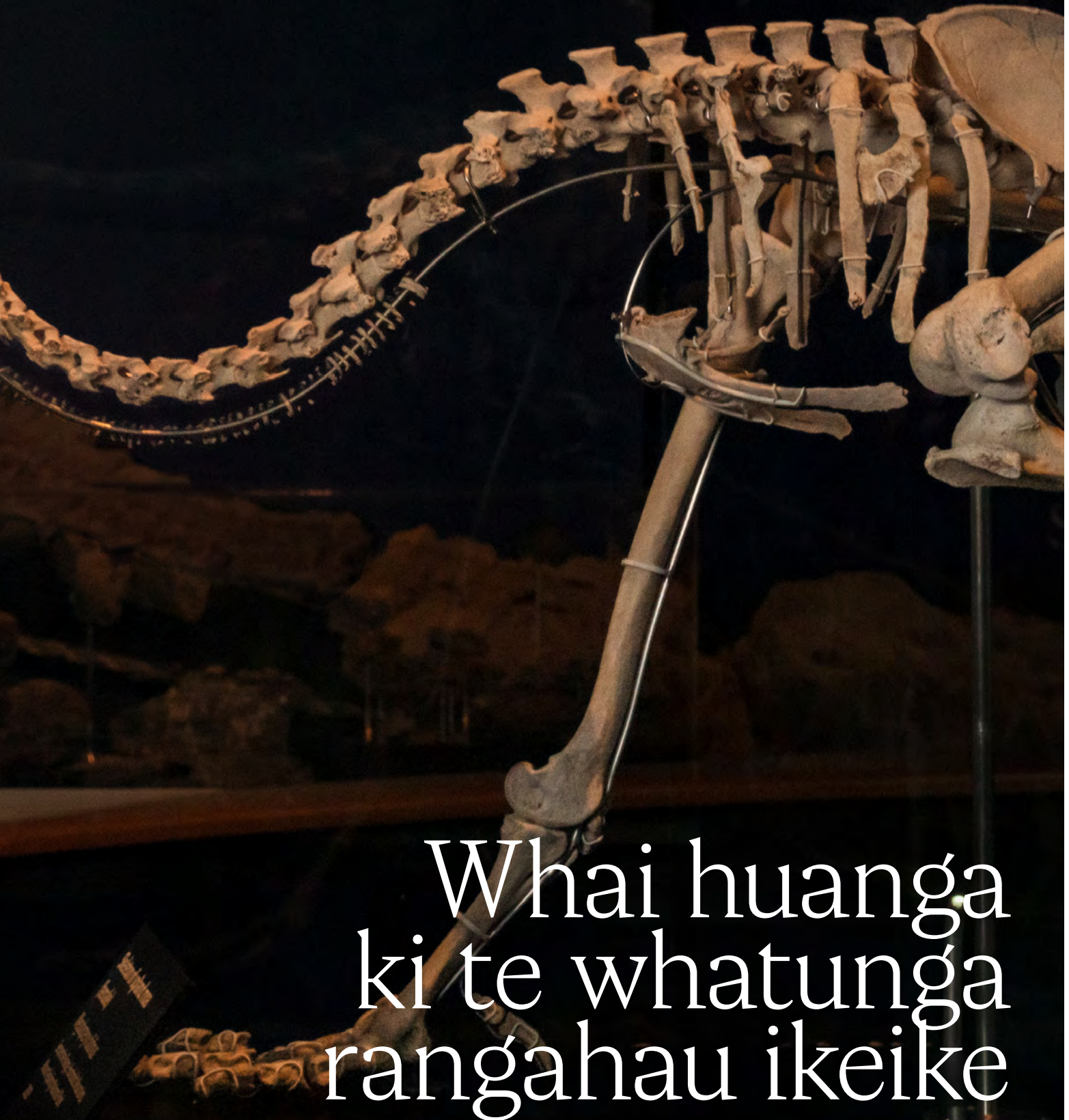
of graduates
go directly
into work
or further
study





Tap into a
world-class
research network

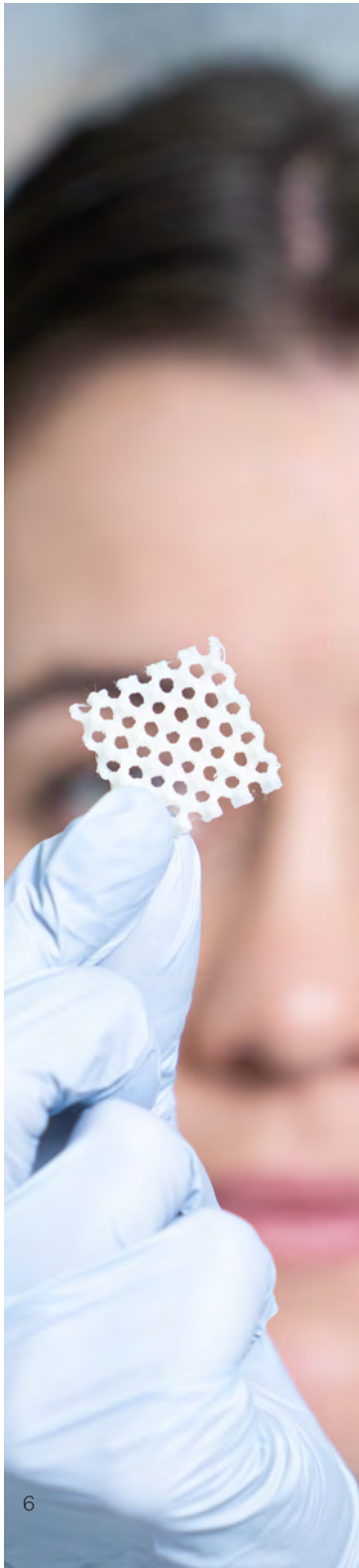
We have a global reputation for research excellence and impact, with our researchers driving significant advancements in health, society, culture, science and sustainability.



Learn from the best

Our research portfolio is diverse: from enhancing native reforestation, to saving lives through work on cancer genetics, and leading on community adaptation to climate change.

Many of our researchers teach courses at Otago, meaning you could be learning from international experts in their fields. As you progress further with your studies, you might have the opportunity to become part of a research team, helping to explore, prevent, and solve global problems.



“In 2024, I had the privilege to be a part of the Tāmanu Programme, supervised by Dr Simon Jackson. I set out to isolate bacteriophage (viruses that specifically attack bacteria) for a highly resistant bacterium, *Acinetobacter baumannii*. Through this programme, I was shown a snapshot of what it is like to be in a research lab and how rewarding it can be to contribute to the global pool of knowledge.”

Haytham Aumua

Studying for a Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences (Infection and Immunity)



#110

in the
world for
sustainability

Sustainability

We're committed to improving sustainability across everything we do, from research and teaching to our everyday activities. Our newest residential college, Te Rangihīroa, is a five-star Green Star building and our campus is 100 per cent disposable cup free.



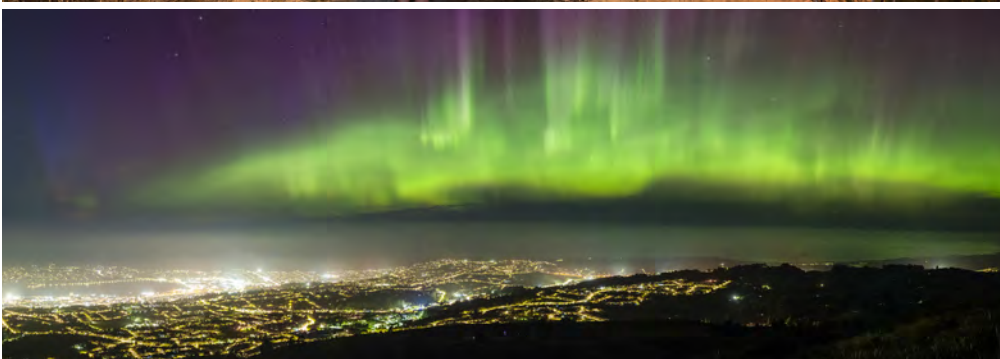
Ōtepoti Dunedin

Located on the southeast coast of the South Island, Dunedin is an urban hub surrounded by beaches, hills and harbour waters.

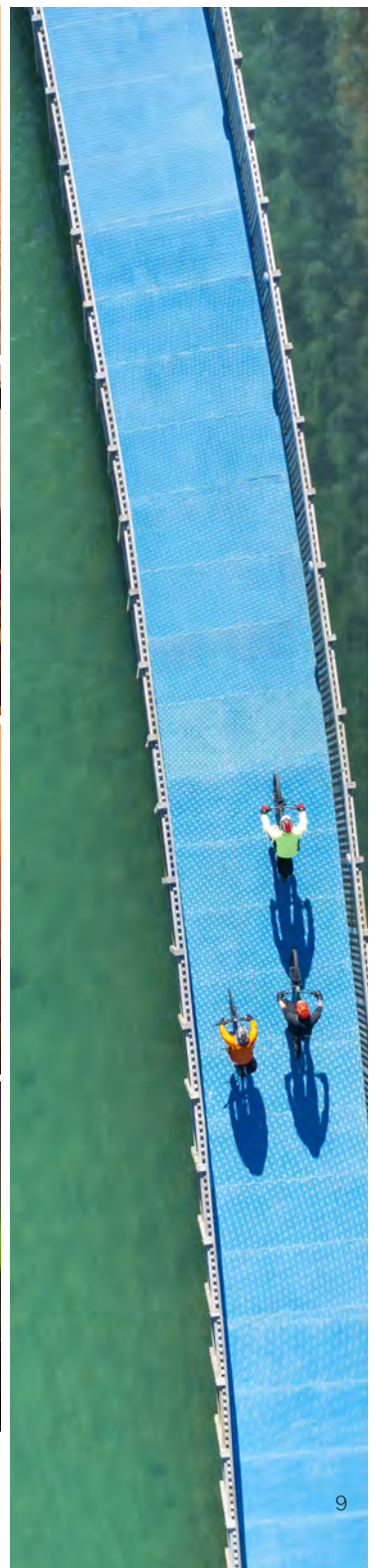
A vibrant city on your doorstep

The cafés, bars, museums, shops, art galleries, cinemas and live music venues of the city centre are just a 10-minute walk from campus.

If you're into the outdoors, you'll find plenty to keep you occupied. Mountain bike, walking and running trails crisscross the city's hills. Explore the Otago Peninsula or head to St Clair to surf, hang out on the beach, or swim in the heated salt water pool.



Left and above images: DunedinNZ



The image shows two graduates in black caps and gowns. The graduate on the right is holding a large bouquet of white flowers and a small brown teddy bear. They are both smiling and looking at each other. The background is a stone building with a window. The entire image has an orange tint.

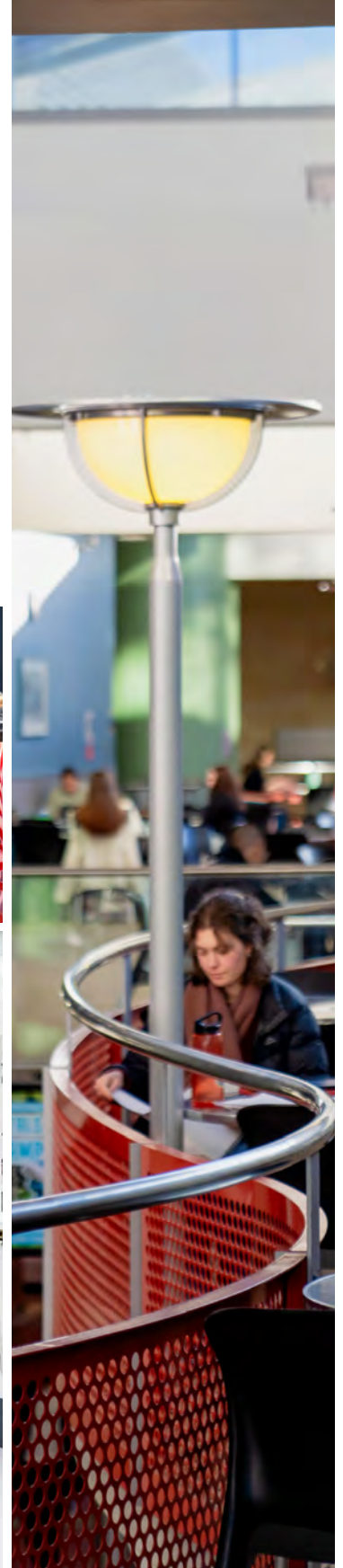
Meet
lifelong friends

Ka tūtaki
i ō hoa pūmau

Around 21,000 students – from all around Aotearoa and the world – call the campus and its surrounding streets home, creating a lively buzz and a real community feel.



From labs and libraries to cafés, study spaces and student support services, our campus has everything you need for student life, all within easy walking distance.



“Otago life was always busy in the best way. Living in a hall of residence in my first year was fantastic, especially after moving from Wellington to Dunedin. It gave me the chance to get involved in inter-hall sports competitions and really connect with people. In my second and third years, I joined the University netball club, which was a great way to meet new friends and stay active. The University also supported me in my volunteer work at a local primary school, which was a rewarding experience and another way to feel part of the community.”

Kyla Dey Bachelor of Commerce (Human Resource Management, Marketing)



87%

of our
students
come
from
outside
Dunedin



Home away
from home

University

BUSY

He kāinga rua

Leaving home is a big step and finding the right accommodation can make a real difference when it comes to settling in and finding your feet.

Residential colleges

Most first-year students live in one of our 15 residential colleges, which are located on or close to campus. More than just a room, each college offers three catered meals a day, a strong support network, and a lively social calendar.

You'll be part of a tight-knit community from the day you arrive, making it easier to meet new people and transition to student life.

How to apply for residential colleges

1 August–30 September

- Apply for residential colleges online through eVision.
- Don't leave any sections blank as it could delay your application being sent to your first-preference college.
- Send your confidential reference form by 15 September.
- You'll receive email confirmation once we have your completed application.
- After 30 September, your application will be considered if places become available.

October

- You'll either be offered a place in a residential college or advised you're on the waitlist.
- The waitlist is reviewed continually until University starts in February.
- Once you've been offered a place in a residential college, you have 14 days to pay the entry and activities fee.
- Your college application is not the same as your registration to study, which you must complete separately to enrol at Otago. Enrolment information is outlined on pages 80–82.
- If you have any questions, contact the Student Accommodation Centre or one of our schools' liaison officers.

otago.ac.nz/accommodation
otago.ac.nz/connect



What's included?

- Your furnished room. Bedrooms are heated and equipped with a bed, desk, chair, wardrobe and bookshelf. You're welcome to bring photos and personal items to make the space your own. Your college will supply fresh sheets every week.
- Unlimited internet.
- Fully catered meals. When you're balancing a full study and social life, you don't want to have to worry about cooking. Each college provides three meals a day. Specific diets may be catered for on request.
- Recreational facilities, ranging from TV and games rooms to gyms and outdoor areas.
- Access to academic support, including study spaces and tutorials.
- Support from live-in staff and senior students who are always available to chat and help you make the most of college and university life.
- Year-round calendar of social and sporting events.

Colleges at a glance

College	Beds	Minutes' walk from campus (*free shuttle)	Annual fee + entry and activities fee (2026)	Features
Aquinas	224	*15	\$19,988 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alcohol-free and single-gender floors available Direct shuttle to and from campus on weekdays Evening shuttles to and from Unipol and the city centre
Arana	342	3	\$21,470 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extensive accommodation options and locations Most floors/houses have their own lounge, kitchenette and laundry
Caroline Freeman	300	6	\$21,470 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range of rooms to suit different needs, from single-room shared apartments, to single or shared ensuite rooms Single-gender and alcohol-free options available
Carrington	241	6	\$21,470 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Villas and purpose-built dorms with laundry and kitchen access Single toilet/shower bathrooms for privacy Three hectares of woodland setting for games, meals and socialising Queer-friendly
192 Castle	125	5	\$24,206 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every room has an ensuite Female-only and alcohol-free wings available Otago's smallest college
Cumberland	322	4	\$21,470 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alcohol-free areas available. Each corridor has a kitchenette Residents can opt to be allocated a bedroom near others studying the same programme
Hayward	174	3	\$21,470 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single-gender, alcohol-free and LGBTQIA-friendly spaces Each floor has a kitchenette Focus on supporting student communities
Knox	260	*15	\$23,500 + \$1,740	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents live in cottages, a renovated villa and the main tower Alcohol-free and single-gender spaces available Home to both undergrad and postgrad students Each area has kitchenette and laundry, plus kitchen access
Salmond	261	*12	\$21,940 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each floor has a kitchenette Alcohol-free, and female-only floor 10 ensuite rooms available
Selwyn	214	0	\$24,132 + \$1,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The oldest residential college with a traditional feel Brick buildings organised around central quad Accommodation across 12 separate buildings
St Margaret's	225	0	*\$22,490.30 + \$1,100 (*when paid in full)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rooms over 11 floors and in 2 houses, each floor has a kitchen Music rooms, art room Outdoor courtyard, tennis court, basketball area
Studholme	184	3	\$21,470 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodation in main complex and six houses Alcohol-free areas available Large outdoor grounds for games, meals and socialising
Te Rangihīroa	450	5	standard \$21,470 ensuite \$24,206 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each floor has two kitchenettes and communal whānau space 150 ensuite bedrooms. Alcohol-free and single-sex floors available 5-star Green Star sustainable building
Toroa	151	3	\$21,470 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suite-style with shared living, bathroom and kitchen facilities One of the smaller colleges
UniCol	503	0	\$21,470 + \$1,020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alcohol-free and single-gender floors Accommodation in residential towers, annexe and village Most floors have their own common room

Academic support	Recreation	Sports and exercise	Disabled facilities	Car parking
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whānau room and common spaces with kitchenette, projector and/or TV Expansive city views and outdoor areas Theatre, pool table, table tennis room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym 	●	●
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common room, games and adjoining outdoor deck Music room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym Close to Unipol 	●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common rooms, library Art, music and games rooms Cinema projection room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym Two outdoor sports courts 	●	●
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common room with movies and gaming consoles Games room with board games, pool, foosball tables Music room, art and sewing room, baking and cooking facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym, bike sheds Outdoor, fully-lit sports court 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation area with pool table, snooker, table tennis, foosball, air hockey, outdoor deck Movie theatre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym 	●	●
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common rooms Table tennis, pool table, foosball TV and projector rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to Unipol Fully-lit sports court 	●	●
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart TV zones, PlayStation 5 Common area with pool table, table tennis, piano, guitars, decks and electric drums 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym Sports courts Mini sport field 	●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials and academic support Hewitson Library and study rooms Quiet hours during exam time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Table tennis, billiards, music room with piano, keyboard, drum kit and guitars Cooking/baking area Common rooms, smart TV with Sky/Netflix 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym Native bush, walkways Multi-use sports court 	●	●
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials, academic mentoring Group study rooms, library Study spaces, quiet hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pool table, table tennis, movie room Common room, music room Cooking facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym, bike shed Multi-use sports court Outdoor lawn game space 	●	●
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials and academic workshops Library and study centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common room with billiards table, music room, and TV room with table tennis Shared kitchen area with coffee machine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gym Multi-use sports court 	●	●
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials and academic mentoring programme Library and study centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media room with Sky TV and Netflix Games room with pool table, table tennis, foosball Music rooms, art room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to Unipol Sports court 	●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common room with a pool table, table tennis table and big-screen TV Music room 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to Unipol Fitness room 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music room, multi-media room, and gaming room with kitchen, pool tables, table tennis and foosball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to Unipol Basketball court Bike sheds and sporting equipment 	●	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials, academic support, study spaces, quiet zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large central common room with games and TV Roof terrace 			●
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-house tutorials Academic support Study spaces, quiet hours/zones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common rooms with pool table, table tennis and foosball; Sky TV rooms with projectors Art and music rooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to Unipol Gym 	●	●



otago.ac.nz/aquinas

Aquinas College Te Kāreti o Akuinahi

Surrounded by nature and overlooking the city and harbour, Aquinas features spacious common areas and modern bedrooms.

Located just a 15-minute walk from campus through the Botanic Garden – or a free shuttle on weekdays – Aquinas residents can take advantage of the scenic environment for studying, relaxing and making memories.

A newly built wing linked to the main block houses bedrooms, a multi-use whānau area, tutorial spaces, an indoor gym, and an extended dining room.



otago.ac.nz/arana

Arana College Te Whare o Arana

Since its establishment in 1943, Arana has transformed into a modern college that holds true to its core values of courage, care and compassion. With 342 bedrooms, Arana is the only college to offer an extensive range of accommodation styles – from historic to contemporary, and mansion to cottage buildings – with most floors/houses having a separate lounge and kitchenette.

A popular college just a stone's throw from campus, Arana supports residents through their in-house tutorial system, teaching spaces, and computing facilities. Arana's expectation is that every resident will do their best to achieve high academic results and engage with their community.

Caroline Freeman College Te Kāreti o Caroline Freeman

Caroline Freeman provides modern living with timeless collegiate values: mutual respect, trust and personal responsibility. Residents stem from all degrees and subject areas, and the college events calendar is full of activities to engage everyone.

Located in the student quarter, Caroline Freeman is just a short walk from campus and North Dunedin's foodie hotspots.

The college's rooms are designed to make residents feel comfortable and connected. There are a range of options available, from single-room shared apartments for 2–6 people, to single or shared ensuite rooms. Amenities include sports courts; lounges; art, music, and games rooms; a library; and a cinema projection room.



otago.ac.nz/carolinefreeman

Carrington College Te Kāreti o Carrington

Carrington College resides in lush greenery and colourful gardens, just a short walk down the hill to campus. Residents live in villas and purpose-built dorms* across the tranquil site. Facilities include a games room, outdoor dining area, study centre, and full-size sports court.

The college has a history of academic achievement and there is a strong music culture within the college. The Carrington community embodies whānaukataka / relationships, manaakitaka / caring for and nurturing others, and atawhai / kindness and generosity. Residents should be prepared to seek out opportunities to make a positive difference and enrich their community – whether participating in or supporting inter-college competitions, taking on leadership roles or getting involved with volunteer initiatives.

*Beds for deaf/low hearing students are available.



otago.ac.nz/carrington



otago.ac.nz/192castle

192 Castle College Te Kāreti o Castle

Located just a five-minute walk between campus and the city centre, 192 Castle is Otago's smallest college.

Unique in Dunedin, all 125 bedrooms are large with modern ensuites. As well as their private space, residents can take advantage of the shared facilities designed to help them achieve a balance of work

and play – like the in-house movie theatre, courtyard balcony, multi-purpose games area, and gym. There's also a study centre and curated academic programme with tutorials and the opportunity for mentoring.

Cumberland College Te Kāreti o Cumberland

Cumberland's central location – just a few minutes' walk between campus and town – makes it ideal for residents wanting quick and easy access to Dunedin's main amenities.

The college has 322 bedrooms, and each corridor has its own kitchenette. Residents make use of the shared social spaces, outdoor courtyard and BBQ, study areas and a full-size sports court. There's also an active in-house social, sporting and cultural programme.

Academic success is high priority at Cumberland with on-site tutors and facilitators, and one-to-one academic mentoring on offer. Residents can also choose to be allocated a bedroom near others studying the same course.

otago.ac.nz/cumberland





otago.ac.nz/hayward

Hayward College Te Kāreti o Hayward

Centrally located just a few minutes' walk to campus and the city centre, Hayward offers 174 bedrooms over five storeys. Each floor has its own kitchenette.

Facilities include two common areas with games and comfy seating, and movie, exercise, music and art rooms.

The college has a strong commitment to its residents' academic achievement. Regular in-house tutorials are offered year-round and

study quiet hours are in place around exams. Residents and staff are also committed to sustainability, with current initiatives including recycling bins in every room, meat-free meal options, and sensor lights for energy savings.

Hayward works hard to enable student-led whanaungatanga and champions wellbeing – an integral part of your success here at Otago.

Knox College Te Kāreti o Knox

Located just outside the student quarter, Knox is a 15-minute walk through the Botanic Garden to campus. The 260 bedrooms and shared facilities are spread across the grounds – from heritage to modern buildings, and stand-alone cottages to the main accommodation tower block.

The main social hubs of the college are the Junior Common Room and Great Hall with a grand piano and full-size billiards table. Smaller common areas are set up for games, movies, exercise, music and studying – there's even a buttery (with full kitchen) for cooking or baking, and a college chapel for meditation and reflection.

Residents can live at Knox at various stages of their academic studies – returners and postgraduate students often make up a quarter of the college.

knoxcollege.ac.nz





salmondcollege.ac.nz

Salmond College Te Kāreti o Salmond

Salmond resides in spacious greenery just north of the Botanic Garden – an easy 12-minute walk to campus.

The majority of its 261 students are from the University, although Otago Polytechnic students are also welcome, creating a diverse and vibrant community. Bedrooms are spread across four floors of the main building, with an ensuite wing for mature students.

Salmond offers great indoor and outdoor spaces, including a common room, movie room, gym, and sports courts. The on-site Waddell Chapel is available for spiritual needs and music practice.

Selwyn College Te Maru Pūmanawa

Selwyn is the oldest residential college in New Zealand and is considered a historical landmark in Otago. The college's culture is shaped by a rich heritage and traditions that reflect its core values: inclusivity, respect and mutual care.

Selwyn's 214 bedrooms are filled with first-year and returning second-year students. Residents live across 12 separate buildings, meaning bedroom layouts, size and character vary.

The college is situated right on campus in a garden setting with easy access to all of Otago's facilities. Residents also have an on-site library and study centre, music room, newly refurbished gym, and full-size tennis court.

The college strives to be a self-regulating community and relies on returning residents to pass down college values, organise activities and events, share their academic knowledge, and offer peer support.



selwyn.ac.nz



stmargarets.college

St Margaret's College Te Kāreti o Makere Tapu

One of the oldest colleges in New Zealand, St Margaret's is located right in the heart of campus. The college houses 225 residents over eleven floors and two on-site houses. Each floor reflects its own character and has a high ratio of individual bathrooms to residents, as well as a social kitchen space.

Everything you need is right down the hall – common rooms; a study centre, library and tutorial rooms; media room with a 75" smart TV;

games room; music facilities and an outdoor courtyard. There's also a returning members academic mentor programme.

Unique to St Margaret's are the monthly formal dinners, where residents dress up to enjoy a meal with special guests from the local community.

Studholme College Te Kāreti o Studholme

Built around its original homestead and picturesque gardens, Studholme is located just one street over from central campus and welcomes students from all areas of study.

Studholme is one of Otago's smaller colleges, with 184 bedrooms spread across the main building and six on-site houses. The common room is the social hub where residents can relax, watch movies, or play board games, pool and table tennis.

The college culture encourages a balanced lifestyle with an academic focus. It holds a reputation for being a friendly, fun and easy-going place to live with plenty of activities –whether weekend trips, competing for art and writing awards, or fighting for a win in inter-college and inter-floor competition events.



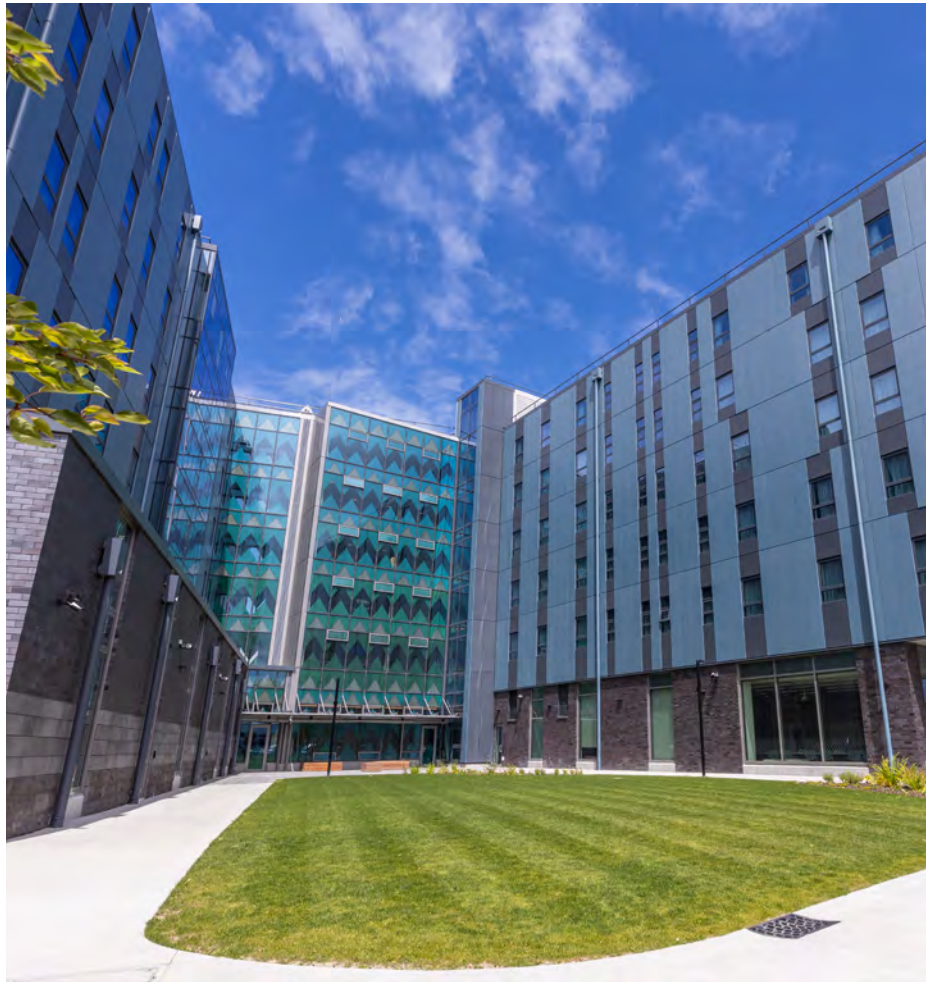
otago.ac.nz/studholme

Te Rangihīroa Te Whare Whakamaru o Te Rangihīroa

Purpose built in 2024, Te Rangihīroa is Otago's newest and most modern residential college. Located an easy five-minute stroll between campus and Unipol, Te Rangihīroa offers ensuite, standard and accessible bedrooms.

Named after Otago's first Māori medical graduate, the values and mana of this individual are woven throughout the building, from the design and layout of the living spaces to the artwork and indigenous plantings.

With high standards of energy efficiency and sustainability at the heart of the design, Te Rangihīroa is a five-star Green Star building. Digital signage showcases information about water and energy consumption within the college, and residents are encouraged to support sustainability efforts and reduce waste.



otago.ac.nz/terangihiroa



otago.ac.nz/toroa

Toroa College Te Whare o Toroa

Toroa is a close-knit college offering modern, suite-style accommodation. With a varied calendar of social events and strong academic support, Toroa provides a balanced living experience that helps students thrive personally and academically.

Located two blocks from campus and nestled within a peaceful woodland setting, the college's main common space, Manawa, opens onto a rooftop terrace with beautiful views – an ideal spot to relax, unwind, and spend time with friends.

The dining hall is conveniently located on central campus and is available for residents to use at any time – whether enjoying meals, studying, or catching up with friends between classes.

University College Te Kāreti o te Whare Wānaka

UniCol is located on central campus, with Unipol, cafés and libraries right on the doorstep.

There are extensive indoor and outdoor social spaces and study facilities, including a courtyard and patio you can book for BBQs and functions. Most floors have their own common room and laundry.

The college culture and staff are dedicated to encouraging positive academic and social success for residents. The college mascot, Leo the lion, embodies the characteristics admired in UniCol residents – courage, strength and working for the good of their whānau.



otago.ac.nz/unicol



“I’ve met so many people at my college and made great friends. One of my closest friends is my neighbour across the hall – we met on day one, which made it easy to bond. Others are from different floors or flats, showing you don’t have to be living next door to become close. My advice is to get involved in everything, even small chats or random activities around the college. Everyone’s in the same boat and looking to meet new people and find friends.”

Maia Thorpe

Studying for Bachelor of Science (Majors: Data Science, Economics)

Accommodation options

Flatting

Flatting is popular with second-year and above students, although some first-years also choose to flat.

Dunedin has a wide range of rental accommodation – from studio rooms and character houses to multi-unit complexes. For private sector listings, check with local rental agencies and Facebook groups.

Homestay

A homestay – where you live with a local family – can be a great way to settle into university life. You'll get your own private room and three meals a day. Homestay accommodation is arranged through the Pathway and English Language Centre.

otago.ac.nz/uolcfy/accommodation

International students

Find out about your accommodation options here:

otago.ac.nz/accommodation/international-students/

Accommodation for people with disabilities

Some of our residential colleges offer facilities for taura with disabilities. Some colleges are particularly suited to those in a wheelchair or with limited mobility. Several University-owned flats meet the needs of students with physical disabilities and those who use guide and service dogs.

To secure a spot in accommodation equipped for your individual needs, register your interest with the Student Accommodation Centre during August and September for the following year.

otago.ac.nz/disabilities





Flatting, boarding or living at home in first year?

No matter where you come from, if you're flatting, boarding or living at home, you'll automatically become a member of the Locals community, giving you plenty of opportunities to get involved in student life. Locals organise social events, volunteering opportunities and academic support, and have their own common room on the top floor of the Union Building.

otago.ac.nz/locals



Support at every step



He piko, he tuarā

University life can sometimes feel overwhelming. We provide a range of support services to look after your health and wellbeing, enhance your opportunities for success, and help you make the most of your time at Otago.

Health and wellbeing

Student Health

Offers urgent and routine GP, nursing, and mental health support services.

otago.ac.nz/studenthealth

Disability Information and Support

If you have a physical, psychological or learning disability, Disability Information and Support are here to help. Support is tailored to your needs and can include access to specialised equipment, quiet study rooms, note-taking, tutoring, reformatting of course materials, and alternative examination arrangements.

otago.ac.nz/disabilities

Chaplains

Otago's chaplaincy team can provide you with confidential and non-judgemental support.

otago.ac.nz/chaplain

Te Whare Tāwharau

Te Whare Tāwharau is an on-campus sexual violence support and prevention centre, providing a place of shelter, free and confidential support, and education to reduce the impact of sexual violence and harassment within our campus community.

otago.ac.nz/te-whare-tawharau

Te Pou Whirinaki

A welcoming hub in the Information Services Building offering wellbeing support, practical skills for life and study balance, and help navigating other support services.

wellbeinghub@otago.ac.nz

Study support

Computer services

You'll have access to study spaces with Wi-Fi, printers, and computers across campus, plus a free Office365 subscription. IT questions can be answered in-person or online.

blogs.otago.ac.nz/studentit

Course advice

Not sure which subject to study? If you're still at secondary school, your schools' liaison officer will help you plan your first year when they visit your school. Once you're on campus, course advisers from Student Development are available to help. Course advice is available as many times as you need throughout your time at Otago.

otago.ac.nz/course-advice

Libraries

Six campus libraries offer a huge range of resources and warm, comfortable study spaces.

otago.ac.nz/library

Student Academic Skills

Free academic learning programmes, workshops and online resources to help you up your study game.

otago.ac.nz/sas

A safer campus

Campus Watch

The Campus Watch team are out and about 24/7, ensuring that our campus is a safe and friendly place to live and study. They also operate a free Safety Patrol service to ensure you get home safely at night.

otago.ac.nz/proctor/campus-watch

0800 479 5000

Code of Student Conduct

This set of common-sense rules prohibits behaviour likely to endanger safety.

otago.ac.nz/code-of-conduct



“Relocating from Otago to Dunedin represented a significant cultural shift, yet the connections I made quickly transformed it into a home away from home. I was fortunate to receive guidance and support from the Pacific student teams. These experiences – and the people I encountered – not only enhanced my university life but also fostered resilience, adaptability, and a strong sense of community.”

Raymond Une

Bachelor of Health Sciences (Pacific and Global Health), Health Promoter, Mapu Maia



Te Huka Mātauraka Māori Centre

Tēnā koutou, nau mai, haere mai, tauti mai ki te Te Huka Mātauraka mō te tau 2027.

Our aroha-filled, dedicated team drive towards the moemoeā of being world leaders in indigenous student support. We provide a nurturing environment for our taura and offer academic, cultural, therapeutic, pastoral and social support. Our message to you is “don’t do it on your own – let us help”.

We’re open Monday to Friday, 8:30am–5pm. All services are free, and all personal matters are handled in the strictest confidence.

Our services include:

Tūraka Hou / Māori Orientation

We run several events during O-Week, including a pōwhiri at a local marae, to welcome first-year taura Māori to Otago and introduce them to our staff.

Liaison, study advice and mentoring

We’ll give you a helping hand with your academic pathway, welfare, finances, and iwi networks. We also offer an invaluable tuakana-teina mentoring programme.

Tutorials and seminars

We offer a wide range of extra tutorials, pre-exam boosters, advice and awahi. You’ll also have access to exam preparation and seminar rooms for casual study sessions.

Counselling, advocacy and pastoral support

Experienced Māori counsellors, a clinical psychology intern, hauora connectors and Māori chaplains are available to ensure your hiko here is the absolute best it can be.

Ka karahipi / scholarships

We can help you navigate the scholarships and grants available to Māori students from the University of Otago and other local and national agencies.

otago.ac.nz/maoricentre



Pacific Islands Centre

Talofa lava and warm Pacific greetings.

The Pacific Islands Centre works collaboratively with Otago's academic divisions and the Pacific community to help you flourish academically, mentally and spiritually during your time here. We offer academic, pastoral and cultural support for all Pacific students. Whether you already relate strongly with your culture or want to learn more about your heritage, the Pacific Islands Centre is the place to be.

We're open Monday to Friday, 8:30am–5pm. All services are free, and all personal matters are handled in the strictest confidence.

Our services include:

- Supplementary tutorials and academic mentoring programmes.
- Wi-Fi, social spaces and study rooms.
- Kitchen facilities.
- Friendly, experienced staff and events to help you transition to University life.
- Advice on a range of issues, including accommodation, scholarships, legal and immigration, travel, places to worship, course-related information, study skills and support services.

otago.ac.nz/pacific

Balance
work and play

Ka whakataurite
i te mahi
me te ngāhau

Whether you want to get into media, play social sport, or have your voice heard on something that matters to you, you'll find plenty to keep you busy between lectures. With 160+ clubs and societies, top-class sports facilities, and a full calendar of gigs and events, there's a way for everyone to join in.

Students' union

Otago University Students' Association (OUSA) is run by students for students. Every year, 10 students are elected to form the OUSA Executive and ensure your voice is heard by the University. OUSA provides services, support, media platforms and events to help you make the most of your university experience. As a student at Otago, you're automatically a member!

OUSA offers:

- 160+ sporting, cultural, political, and religious clubs and societies.
- A recreation programme where you can try all kinds of activities, from learning a new language to martial arts and pilates.
- Unforgettable student events.
- Student Support offering help with everything from flatting issues to financial and wellbeing assistance. There's also a dedicated queer-focused advocate for anything related to gender or sexuality.
- 10 per cent discount at the University Book Shop plus a textbook buy-back scheme.
- Free breakfast and \$5 lunch on weekdays.

ousa.org.nz

Keen for some media experience?

Critic is OUSA's independent student magazine, out every Monday during semester. Volunteer and gain some valuable experience for your CV. Or jump aboard the airwaves and get involved with Radio 1 – Dunedin's student station. Stream online or set your dial to 91FM.



Run the week before the first semester, Orientation features events and activities that will help you settle into university life. Find your way around campus, enjoy great nights out, and pick up some useful academic tips.

Sports and recreation

Whether you're looking to clear your head, meet new people or achieve a healthy study-life balance, Unipol Recreation has you covered.

What's on offer?

- Free access to our functional training zone, two fully equipped weight rooms, and a cardio training room.
- Group fitness classes.
- Free court spaces for netball, basketball, volleyball and badminton, plus free equipment hire.
- Social sport programme.
- Personalised fitness sessions.
- Games area with table tennis, pool and foosball tables, plus board games.

otago.ac.nz/recreation



Planning a snowboarding or camping trip but short of gear?

Unipol has a wide variety of outdoor equipment available for hire, including surfboards, bikes, skis, snowboards, camping gear, and clothing. You can also use your student ID to score great deals on outdoor adventures in and around Dunedin, like windsurfing, paddleboarding, ice hockey, sea kayaking and rock climbing.



“My time at Otago was really fulfilling. I spent two years at Knox College, flatted for three years, and then went back to Knox as a Residential Assistant (RA). As an RA, I supported first-year students by sharing the knowledge and life lessons I’d picked up over the years. I was also involved with student representation – first within the Otago University Medical Students Association, and then as Vice-President of the Dunedin Medical Students Association for ALM. It was a privilege to work alongside passionate peers and to advocate for our community.”

Yuvraj Sandhu

Bachelor of Medicine
and Bachelor of Surgery

Gain real-world skills

Otago offers lots of exciting opportunities to grow your skills beyond your degree and set yourself up for success after graduation.

Volunteering

The Social Impact Studio organises a huge range of projects, from reading to tamariki in local schools to tree planting and park clean-ups. Get involved and develop your leadership and employability skills.

otago.ac.nz/volunteer

Student exchange

Want to see the world and gain a more international perspective? Our student exchange programme gives you the opportunity to study at one of 100+ universities around the world. You could spend one or two semesters overseas and earn credits towards your Otago degree.

otago.ac.nz/study/otago-global-student-exchange

Career Development Centre

Attend interactive workshops and fairs, get help with your CV, or explore employment opportunities. Career advisers are available for one-to-one discussions.

otago.ac.nz/careers

Internships and placements

Gain relevant work experience before you graduate. Otago offers a range of opportunities across subject areas – from 10-week summer internships to one-year placements – that'll look great on your CV and put you ahead of the game when embarking on your career.

Study guide



Aratohu ako

University is an amazing opportunity to expand your knowledge and skills, learn from experts, and set yourself up for future career success.

Studying at university

Studying at university is very different to school. You'll have fewer scheduled lessons and be expected to do more independent learning. Here are some of the main teaching methods you'll encounter:

- **Lectures** give you the core information for each paper and are the main method of instruction. They normally last 50 minutes. In many first-year subjects, there can be up to 500 students in a lecture at one time.
- **Tutorials** are small group sessions, led by a tutor, for discussion and individual assistance. Some are compulsory and some will be optional.
- **Fieldwork** is practical work carried out off-campus. It might involve conducting surveys, collecting samples or taking photos.
- **Papers** are assessed in a variety of ways. Examinations (finals) are usually the most important, and most papers end with a two- to three-hour exam. Many papers also have internal assessments such as short tests, written essays/assignments or laboratory work.



Online tools

Otago offers a range of digital learning platforms and resources.

Blackboard

A one-stop-shop to access your course materials, complete or upload assessments, and take part in peer discussions.

eVision

For everything study related – apply for papers, view your grades and exam results, access your timetable, and keep your personal information up to date.

StudentMail

You'll get a personal Otago email address where you'll receive all University communications.

Apps at Otago

A web portal that enables you to access your files and software from any computer, anywhere.

University of Otago App

Quick access to the information you'll need most – your timetable and academic results, a campus map, key dates, useful contacts, campus weather, and shortcuts to Otago's online platforms.

otago.ac.nz/app

Laboratory sessions (labs) involve experimental or practical work. They may be compulsory and participation may contribute towards your final grade.

How a degree works

A degree is the qualification you complete at university. This is your overall programme. Your degree will have an abbreviation such as BA, BSc or BCom. That's code for Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, or Bachelor of Commerce.

Some programmes, such as Health Sciences First Year (HSFY), will lead on to other degrees.

The subject you choose to specialise in within your degree is called your major. When you start your first year at university, choose three or four subjects you'd like to try. One will become your major.

In many degrees, you can choose to have a minor as well. This is a subject you've studied at each level, but not in as much depth as your major.

Each subject has levels (100, 200, 300). The first courses you take are called 100-level papers or beginner papers.

Each subject is divided into papers. These are like topics within each subject – the building blocks of your degree. They have codes like HIST 104, PSYC 201 and MART 304. The papers you choose each year are your course of study.

When you pass each paper, you get points towards your degree. Papers are generally worth 18 points and a three-year degree needs 360 points. This usually consists of 20 papers, an average of 7 papers per year.

A double degree is when you study two degrees at the same time. There are also options to combine two majors from different degrees in a single four-year degree. These combined degrees include Arts and Business, Arts and Science, and Business and Science.

A general degree, such as a Bachelor of Arts, might look like this:

YEAR 1	Major 100-level 18 points	Major 100-level 18 points	Arts 100-level 18 points	Arts 100-level 18 points	Arts 100-level 18 points	Arts or other 100-level 18 points	Arts or other 100-level 18 points
YEAR 2	Major 200-level 18 points	Major 200-level 18 points	Major 200-level 18 points	Arts 200-level 18 points	Arts 200-level 18 points	Arts or other 200-level 18 points	Arts or other Any level 18 points
YEAR 3	Major 300-level 18 points	Major 300-level 18 points	Major 300-level 18 points	Major 300-level 18 points	Arts Any level 18 points	Arts or other Any level 18 points	

- Arts major subject
- Arts subjects other than the major
- Subjects either from Arts or from other degrees

Choosing what to study

There's a lot to think about when deciding what to study at university. Here are some of the things to consider.

What interests you?

Studying a subject that genuinely fascinates you will make your time at university easier and more enjoyable. You might have a few subjects you enjoy – use your first year to explore your interests and work out which subject you're going to specialise in.

Do you have a specific career goal?

This can help narrow down your search but still make sure you investigate all your options. Otago degrees offer a lot of flexibility – you might be able to incorporate your interests while still working towards your career goals.

Are you driven to solve a particular issue – like climate change or health inequity – but have no idea which subject would best suit this goal?

Explore our themes to discover subjects you might not be familiar with.

otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects

Get help

If you're still at secondary school, your schools' liaison officer will help you plan your first year when they visit your school. You can also contact them at any time through their offices.

otago.ac.nz/liaison

Once you're on campus, course advisers from Student Development are available to help. If your degree isn't meeting your study and career goals, it's okay to switch direction! You can change your papers, your major, or even your whole degree.

otago.ac.nz/course-advice



Take our online quiz to uncover study options matched to your background and interests



Subjects and degrees

This table lists the subjects and degrees available at the University of Otago.

D Degree: you can study for a degree in this field

M Major: you can major in this subject

m Minor: you can minor in this subject

All major subjects available for the BA are also available for the BAsc and BCom.

All major subjects available for the BSc are also available for the BAsc and BComSc.

All major subjects available for the BCom are also available for the BAsc and BComSc.

Degrees: the degrees in which this is a specialist subject

Subject	Major/Minor or Degree	Degrees	Subject	Major/Minor or Degree	Degrees
Accounting	M/m	BCom	Environment and Society	m	
Agricultural Innovation	M/m	BSc	Environmental Management	M/m	BSc/BA
Anatomy	M/m	BSc	Exercise and Sport Science	M/m	BSc
Anthropology*	M/m	BA	Film and Media Studies	M/m	BA
Aquaculture and Fisheries	M/m	BSc	Finance	M/m	BCom
Biblical Studies	M/m	BA	Food Science	M/m	BSc
Biochemistry	M/m	BSc	Forensic Analytical Science	M	BSc
Bioethics	m		French	M/m	BA
Biomedical Sciences	D	BBiomedSc	Functional Human Biology	M	BBiomedSc
Botany	M/m	BSc	Gender Studies	M/m	BA
Buddhist Studies	m		Genetics	M/m	BSc
Business Analytics	M/m	BCom	Geographic Information Systems	M/m	BSc
Chemistry	M/m	BSc	Geography	M/m	BA/BSc
Chinese	M/m	BA	Geology	M/m	BSc
Christian Thought and History	M/m	BA	German	M/m	BA
Classics	M/m	BA	Global Studies	M	BA
Communication Studies	M/m	BA	Greek	m	
Community Health Care	M/m	BHealSc	Health Sciences First Year	Entry programme	
Computational Modelling	m		Health Sciences	D	BHealSc
Computer Science	M/m	BA/BSc	History	M/m	BA
Criminology	M	BA	Human Nutrition	M/m	BSc
Dance	m		Human Resource Management	M/m	BCom
Data Science	M/m	BA/BSc	Human Services Law	m	
Dental Surgery	D	BDS	Indigenous Studies	M/m	BA
Dental Technology	D	BDentTech	Infection and Immunity	M	BBiomedSc
Drugs and Human Health	M	BBiomedSc	International Business	M	BCom
Ecology	M/m	BSc	Irish Studies	m	
Economics	M/m	BCom/BA/BSc	Japanese	M/m	BA
Education	M/m	BA	Land Planning and Development	M/m	BSc
English	M/m	BA	Language and Linguistics	M	BA
English and Linguistics	M	BA	Latin	m	
Entrepreneurship	D/m	BEntr	Law	D	LLB

*Includes Archaeology, Social Anthropology, and Biological Anthropology

Subject	Major/Minor or Degree	Degrees
Linguistics	M/m	BA
Management	M/m	BCom
Māori Health	M/m	BBHealSc
Māori Studies	M/m	BA
Marine Science	M/m	BSc
Marketing	M/m	BCom
Mathematical Statistics	m	
Mathematics	M/m	BSc/BA
Medical Laboratory Science	D	BMLSc
Medicine and Surgery	D	MB ChB
Microbiology	M/m	BSc
Molecular Basis of Health and Disease	M	BBiomedSc
Music	D/M/m	MusB/BA
Music Production	m	
Neuroscience	M/m	BSc
Nutrition, Metabolism and Human Health	M	BBiomedSc
Oral Health	D	BOH
Pacific and Global Health	M/m	BHealSc
Pacific Studies	M/m	BA
Pastoral Studies	m	
Pathology	m	
Performing Arts	D	BPA
Pharmaceutical Science	D	BPharmSc
Pharmacology	M/m	BSc
Pharmacy	D	BPharm
Philosophy	M/m	BA
Philosophy, Politics and Economics	M	BA/BCom
Physical Education, Activity and Health	M/m	BSc
Physics	M/m	BSc
Physiology	M/m	BSc
Physiotherapy	D	BPhty
Plant Biotechnology	M/m	BSc

Subject	Major/Minor or Degree	Degrees
Politics	M/m	BA
Popular Music	m	
Psychology	M/m	BSc/BA
Public Health	M/m	BHealSc
Radiation Therapy	D	BRT
Religious Studies	M/m	BA
Reproduction, Genetics and Development	M	BBiomedSc
Science of Religion	m	
Social Work	D	BSW
Sociology	M/m	BA
Software Engineering	D	BE(Hons)
Spanish	M/m	BA
Sport and Exercise Nutrition	M/m	BSc
Sport Development and Management	M/m	BA/BSc
Sports Technology	m	
Statistics	M/m	BSc/BA
Surveying	D	BSurv
Surveying Measurement	M	BSc
Sustainable Business	m	
Sustainable Energy	M/m	BSc
Sustainable Finance	m	
Teaching	D	BTchg
TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)	m	
Theatre Studies	M/m	BA
Theology	D/m	BTheol/BA
Tourism	M/m	BCom
Tourism, Languages and Cultures	M	BA
Writing	m	
Zoology	M/m	BSc



“I love and enjoy the study and hangout spaces available at the Otago Business School. They create an environment that’s both welcoming and productive. The teaching and support staff are also incredibly approachable and always willing to help, which has made a big difference in my learning experience.”

Evis Takubala

Studying for a Bachelor of Commerce (Management)

Bachelor of Commerce Tohu Paetahi Pakihi

Develop your interests in business and related subjects with a BCom. You can create your own individual course from the range of papers across the departments in the Otago Business School.

As a Business student at Otago, you'll learn from award-winning academics who teach an innovative curriculum based on their extensive research experience. You'll get the chance to network with business professionals, take part in guest-speaker events, and learn key career skills by participating in the business case competition series.

We believe business has a big role to play in a better future. Our graduates gain a solid understanding of their chosen business discipline(s) and an appreciation of the wider business sector. They also take on the challenge of ensuring our communities grow culturally, socially, economically and sustainably.

otago.ac.nz/courses/qualifications/bachelor-of-commerce

Subjects:

- Accounting
- Business Analytics
- Economics
- Entrepreneurship*
- Finance
- Human Resource Management
- International Business Management
- Marketing
- Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)
- Sustainable Business*
- Sustainable Finance*
- Tourism

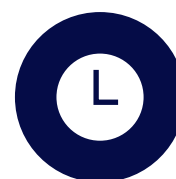
**Minor subject only.*



Three years full-time



Includes a set of core Business papers



Must have at least one major subject and can also include a minor subject

Bachelor of Entrepreneurship Tohu Paetahi Rakahinonga

Entrepreneurs can change the way we live and work. Entrepreneurial thinking is beneficial not just for those creating and building new businesses but for professionals in every sector of the economy.

Study for a Bachelor of Entrepreneurship (BEntr) and you'll develop problem-solving skills that enhance innovation and creativity, increase productivity, and create new products, services and processes. During your studies, you'll learn how to:

- Bring innovative, sustainable and inclusive thinking to a new venture or existing organisation.
- Fund a new venture, make investment decisions and evaluate performance.
- Develop and test business ideas in ways that reduce risk and uncertainty.
- Formulate and implement innovative strategies.
- Use entrepreneurial thinking to improve the health, wealth and wellbeing of organisations and communities.
- Apply research and communication skills to develop and pitch a start-up idea.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/entrepreneurship

Through teamwork and interaction with skilled lecturers and start-up founders, you'll develop a wide array of professional skills that will enhance your employability, such as communication, leadership, problem-solving, analysis, and decision-making.

In addition to learning and applying leading theories, knowledge and frameworks related to innovation and entrepreneurship, you'll engage with industry and practicing entrepreneurs. You'll have access to extra-curricular entrepreneurial programmes as well as Dunedin's thriving start-up ecosystem that offers supportive networks, business incubators and co-working spaces.



“Studying Entrepreneurship has pushed me closer to making my business a reality. Through this course, I’ve been provided with helpful connections, mentor programmes and encouragement. I love being around others who have similar thoughts – it’s motivating to be around like-minded people! The lecturers in this degree are approachable and want to help you succeed, so they’re always around to help with any questions or concerns.”

Grace Buckley

Bachelor of Entrepreneurship
(Minor: Management)



Three years
full-time



Consists of six core
Entrepreneurial papers



You can include one or more optional majors from Business, Humanities, Sciences, or the Bachelor of Health Sciences, and one or more optional minors



“After completing HSFY, I was unsure about the exact path I wanted to take. However, I knew I was passionate about both people and science, and the BHealSc offered the perfect balance between the two. Coming from lectures with 600+ students, it was refreshing to be in a group of around 20 where learning felt more personal. The lecturers felt more approachable and, because I often saw them again in following years, we were able to build a real rapport.”

Muneerah Makarani

Bachelor of Health Sciences
(Major: Community Health Care,
Minor: Indigenous Development)
Studying for a Bachelor of Medicine
and Bachelor of Surgery

Health Sciences First Year Ko Te Tau Tautahi o Te Ara o Te Tautarinui

Health Sciences First Year (HSFY) is ideal preparation for a career in health, whether you're planning on entering one of our professional programmes or you're still exploring your options.

You'll gain foundational knowledge about how the body functions at various levels, from the physical, chemical, biochemical, molecular and cellular levels, through to functional organ systems and factors affecting health and disease in human populations.

HSFY is the entrance pathway into Dental Surgery, Medical Laboratory Science, Medicine, Pharmacy, or Physiotherapy. But your options don't end there. HSFY can be credited towards a wide range of degrees and many students discover new areas of interest after taking HSFY.

What will you study?

HSFY is a busy year that includes weekly lectures, tutorials, laboratories, assignments, tests and readings.

There are seven compulsory papers:

- BIOC 192 Foundations of Biochemistry
- CELS 191 Cell and Molecular Biology
- CHEM 191 The Chemical Basis of Biology and Human Health
- HUBS 191 Human Body Systems 1
- HUBS 192 Human Body Systems 2
- PHSI 191 Biological Physics
- POPH 192 Population Health

There's also the option to take an eighth paper to study something outside of health sciences.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/health-sciences-first-year-hsfy

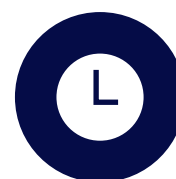
HSFY is a one-year programme designed to equip you with foundational skills in health sciences.



One year full-time



Dunedin



Applications due
10 December 2026

Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences Tohu Paetahi Pūtaiao Rongoā Koiora

With one degree, learn about the fundamentals of human biology, health and wellbeing as well as the causes, diagnosis, and treatment of conditions like cancer, diabetes, heart disorders and infectious diseases.

You'll explore the fundamentals of cell and molecular biology, chemistry and biochemistry, and human structure and function. Through a combination of theoretical, practical, and self-directed learning, you'll develop knowledge and skills in laboratory techniques, data collection, analysis, and presentation, report writing, and teamwork.

Career opportunities

A degree in Biomedical Sciences gives you the knowledge and skills to thrive in health and science careers. You could work as a laboratory technician, an adviser or consultant for government or biotech firms, a sales and marketing representative for healthcare and medical companies, or as a science writer or

medical communications specialist. Alternatively, you might embark on a career in research or teaching. Many graduates go on to postgraduate study.

Choose from six majors:

Drugs and Human Health
Functional Human Biology
Infection and Immunity
Molecular Basis of Health and Disease
Nutrition and Metabolism in Human Health
Reproduction, Genetics and Development

otago.ac.nz/subjects/biomedical-sciences

Many of our BBiomedSc graduates are successful in obtaining graduate entry into health professional programmes such as Dentistry, Medicine, and Pharmacy.



Three years full-time



Dunedin



Applications due
10 December 2026



“I chose to study Biomedical Sciences as it provided me with a human-health-focused degree, that allowed for flexibility in the range of subjects and papers I could take. My major has been incredibly focused on microbiology and immunology. The staff in this department are passionate, knowledgeable and easily approachable when you have questions or just want to have a chat about research. While this degree is very lab heavy, it provided a lot of structure to my weekly schedule which I felt I really benefited from.”

Verona Conole

Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences
(Major: Infection and Immunity)



“I saw Health Sciences First Year as an option that could open up various pathways into healthcare professions because I wasn’t sure at that point what I wanted to do. I still wanted to pursue the health pathway, even after failing one of my first-year papers. I chose to major in Māori Health because being Māori myself, I believed that I would gain the knowledge and skills needed to improve healthcare delivery in Māori communities.”

Te Reimana Parangi

Bachelor of Health Sciences (Māori Health), Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

Bachelor of Health Sciences Tohu Paetahi Mātau Hauora

This career-focused degree will give you the skills needed to help address the global challenges impacting the health and wellbeing of our communities.

Through classroom and hands-on learning, you’ll gain expertise in topics such as health services, health policy, social health, and population health, and learn how to develop innovative and proactive approaches to challenging and complex health needs.

You can choose to specialise in four different areas:

Community Health Care

Develop an understanding of health and wellbeing, disability, human development, and common health problems. Learn about the experiences of community members as they make their way through life and navigate the healthcare system.

Māori Health

Māori Health focuses on making a difference for Māori health outcomes. Learn how to provide culturally responsive health practice when working with Māori individuals, whānau, communities, organisations and our wider society.

Pacific and Global Health

Study how culture, history, environment and global systems shape wellbeing, with a strong focus on Pacific peoples and other communities facing health inequities.

Public Health

Make a difference by studying the social, environmental and behavioural factors that shape people’s health – from housing and nutrition to policy and health systems – and how you can make positive change to the health of populations.

Career opportunities

This degree prepares you for health and wellbeing careers. You could work in government policy, health promotion, community health programmes, case management, primary health networks, or health and disability services.

otago.ac.nz/courses/qualifications/bachelor-of-health-sciences

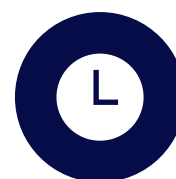
Rewarding careers exist in government policy, health promotion, and case management – it’s not just doctors or dentists who make a difference.



Three years full-time



Dunedin



Applications due
10 December 2026

Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science Tohu Paetahi Pūtaiao Taka Rongoā

Pharmaceutical Science is a gateway into the world of medicines – how they're discovered, developed, formulated and used in plants, animals and humans.

This three-year degree is the only one of its kind in Aotearoa. Here you'll go beyond the textbook, exploring how chemistry, biology, pharmacology and formulation science come together to solve real problems.

You'll gain hands-on experience in modern labs, learn from scientists and industry experts, and build a foundation in areas such as medicinal chemistry and rongoā Māori / Māori medicine. You'll view medicines from both scientific and cultural perspectives.

Career opportunities

This degree leads to roles in the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and health-science sectors. You could work as a scientist researching and developing new drugs and medicines; a formulation scientist in food, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and agrichemicals; a regulatory affairs officer evaluating medicines for governments or companies; a border control or forensic analysis agent identifying and analysing drugs; or a clinical trials associate testing the safety and efficacy of medicines

otago.ac.nz/subjects/pharmaceutical-science

If you're curious, innovative, and excited about developing next-generation health products, this programme equips you with the tools to bring your ideas to life.



Three years full-time



Dunedin



Applications due
10 December 2026



“Pharmaceutical Science and Pharmacy staff at Otago are expert scientists and teachers who fostered an environment of intellectual curiosity – inspiring us to push the boundaries of our knowledge and pursue further study. Their passion for research and innovation prepared us academically and instilled confidence for the global impact we can make in the field.”

Baxter Blair

Bachelor of Science with Honours (Pharmacology), Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Science



“Dental technology is a new, exciting and creative field. The course is very hands-on, with a great balance between theory and practical aspects. The class culture and the learning environment is friendly with great support from the lecturers. Making a dental appliance might seem like a simple process, but there is complex science behind the work.”

Ana Grymak

PhD, Bachelor of Dental Technology with Honours

Bachelor of Dental Technology Tohu Paetahi Hangarau ā-Niho

Enter the technical side of dentistry, where precision, creativity, and science merge. Learn how dental technicians design and construct artificial teeth, and step into the future of digital dental technology.

You'll be part of the dental care team, but in the workshop and lab rather than behind a chair with patients. That means your day will be filled with problem-solving, precision and creativity. For someone who loves making things, working in 3D, and seeing the tangible result of their efforts, this is a springboard into a satisfying career.

By studying this discipline, you'll gain technical expertise, creative problem-solving skills and a chance to contribute meaningfully to people's health and appearance.

Professional registration

The profession of dental technician is registered under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act (2004). Graduates of the Bachelor of Dental Technology programme are automatically entitled to register with the New Zealand Dental Council in order to practise as a registered dental technician.

Career opportunities

Dental technicians are in high demand in New Zealand, Australia, and globally. Employment opportunities are available in private dental laboratories, hospitals, and educational institutions. Additionally, you can pursue postgraduate studies to qualify as a clinical dental technician, enabling you to work directly with patients.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/dental-technology

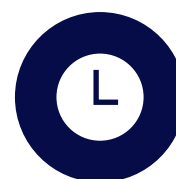
Our state-of-the-art laboratories provide hands-on experience with the latest industry-standard equipment, including computer-aided design (CAD), computer-aided manufacturing (CAM), milling and 3D printing.



Three years full-time



Dunedin



Apply from
1 July to 13 August 2026

Bachelor of Oral Health

Tohu Paetahi Oranga Waha

Good oral health can change lives. Study for a Bachelor of Oral Health and you'll gain skills in oral health therapy and oral health promotion, enabling you to play an important role within the community.

Learn how to diagnose and treat oral diseases (such as gum disease and dental decay), educate patients about their oral health and preventive care, and provide quality care for patients of all ages, including restorative care for children and adolescents.

You'll develop the skills to work with different communities, with a strong emphasis on cultural understanding and improving health equity. Study at New Zealand's only School of Dentistry, recognised internationally for excellence in teaching and research, and graduate ready to make a real impact.

Professional registration

Graduates of the Bachelor of Oral Health programme are automatically entitled to register as an Oral Health Therapist with the New Zealand Dental Council and are work-ready to practise independently or as part of a dental team.

Career opportunities

Employment opportunities include roles in private and specialist dental practices, community-based and iwi-based clinics, hospital dental clinics, health promotion roles, and public health advisory positions.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/oral-health

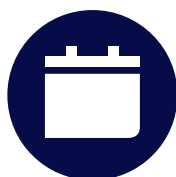
Apply your knowledge about health and disease to provide appropriate care for patients, and foster lifelong positive oral health attitudes and behaviour.



Three years full-time



Dunedin



Apply from
1 July to 13 August 2026



“One of the main reasons I chose to study for a Bachelor of Oral Health was because of how community-focused it is – it really aligned with my values. My parents both grew up with poorer oral health, so I saw how it can negatively impact someone's overall quality of life in the future. I really wanted a career in which I could help to prevent this from happening to our tamariki.”

Lateisha Chant

Rangitāne ki Wairau, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Ngāti Kuia, Kāi Tahu

Bachelor of Oral Health

Oral Health Therapist, Te Whatu Ora
– Te Tai Tokerau (Health
New Zealand, Northland region)



“Clinical placements are hands-on from the beginning. By the third year, under supervision, I was actively involved in planning and delivering treatment to real patients. The transition from student to qualified practitioner at Waikato Hospital was remarkably smooth. It was a surreal experience to complete my final clinical objectives and return just two weeks later for my orientation as a new graduate.”

Jess McCarthy

Bachelor of Radiation Therapy

Radiation Therapist,
Waikato Hospital

Bachelor of Radiation Therapy Tohu Paetahi Haumanu Iraruke

Radiation therapists are involved in the planning and delivery of radiation treatment and care for patients with cancer. Radiation therapy is a highly skilled health profession and qualified radiation therapists are in demand.

Study to become a qualified radiation therapist on our Wellington campus and make a real difference to the health of Aotearoa. Due to the lengthy nature of cancer treatment – sometimes five days a week for up to seven weeks – you’ll get to know your patients and their whānau well, which is very rewarding.

Students go on clinical placements at cancer centres around the country, gaining the experience that allows an easier transition to working once qualified.

Professional registration

Graduates are eligible for registration with the New Zealand Medical Radiation Technologists Board. There are excellent career opportunities both in New Zealand and overseas.

Accommodation

Otago doesn’t offer any residential colleges in Wellington. Radiation Therapy students can apply directly to Victoria University and Massey University (Wellington campus) for accommodation. This is a popular option for first-year students. For more information, talk to our schools’ liaison team.

Info sessions

Discover first-hand what Radiation Therapy is all about by attending one of our information sessions held at cancer centres around the country. See our website for dates.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/radt

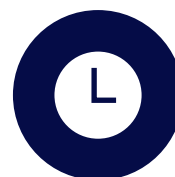
Radiation therapists work in a fast-paced, high-tech environment. It’s a career that offers a great work/life balance as you’ll typically work standard hours.



Three years full-time



Wellington



Apply from
1 July to 13 August 2026

Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science Tohu Paetahi Taiwhanga Pūtaiao Rongōā

Medical laboratory professionals are the behind-the-scenes backbone of medicine, central to medical decision-making and patient outcomes.

Medical laboratory scientists perform and interpret laboratory tests that are essential for the accurate diagnosis and treatment of disease. You'll combine scientific theory with advanced laboratory technologies and sophisticated instrumentation used in real diagnostic settings.

The degree covers a wide range of subjects. You'll choose to focus on two of these for your fourth-year clinical placement: haematology, chemical pathology, histology and cytology, immunology, microbiology and virology, transfusion science, and molecular diagnostics.

Professional registration

Around 70 per cent of graduates work for at least six months in diagnostic medical laboratories. This is necessary to fulfil the requirements for registration with the Medical Science Council of New Zealand.

Career opportunities

There is strong demand for medical laboratory scientists and this internationally recognised qualification enables graduates to work worldwide. Opportunities include hospital and community diagnostic laboratories, medical research, forensic science, diagnostic and clinical education, and biotechnology companies. With experience and further training, graduates may progress into advanced roles such as clinical scientists, point-of-care testing specialists, or laboratory managers.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/medical-laboratory-science

70 per cent of clinical diagnoses depend on laboratory test results, making medical laboratory science a life-saving profession.



Four years full-time
(including one year HSFY)



Dunedin



Apply for HSFY
Check website for updated
application dates



“If you're interested in healthcare and diagnostics, this course is for you. It was great getting such a broad-spectrum look at many aspects of human pathologies, like haematology, biochemistry and microbiology. But it was also good to specialise in areas that were particularly interesting to me. My beginnings in the BMLSc at Otago set me up for a long and exciting career in infection sciences. The education and skills I gained at Otago meant that I could be competitive and capable on the world stage of laboratory science.”

Lisa Stevens

Bachelor of
Medical Laboratory Science

Technical Officer,
World Health Organization



“From a young age, I knew that I wanted to be a health professional. After a hospital pharmacy experience during secondary school, I knew that Pharmacy was for me – I loved the fact that I could have a career and still have lots of time to spend with family and friends.

“I decided to do an honours degree because, throughout my studies, I realised that research has a huge impact on health outcomes and I wanted to develop my skills in this area.”

Paige Rangi

Ngāti Kahungunu

Bachelor of Pharmacy with Honours

Clinical and Aseptic Pharmacist,
Hawke's Bay Hospital

Bachelor of Pharmacy Tohu Paetahi Taka Rongoā

Pharmacists work directly with patients, helping them understand their medicines and use them in the most effective way. As medicines experts, pharmacists are trusted by other healthcare professionals to assess prescriptions and recommend the best combination of medicines.

You'll develop a strong grounding in the sciences behind modern pharmacy before moving into clinical pharmacology and the way medicines are used to treat illness and support health. You'll also learn how pharmacists improve patient outcomes through person-centred care in both clinical and community settings.

Pharmacists advise on the safe and effective use of medicines, work closely with other health professionals, diagnose and prescribe medicines in certain settings, and monitor treatments. It's a career that blends science and problem solving and has a meaningful impact on people's lives.

Professional registration

Once you complete your fourth year and graduate, there is a one-year, pre-registration internship programme which is overseen by the Pharmacy Council

of New Zealand. This is undertaken as paid employment at an approved site in a hospital or community pharmacy.

Career opportunities

Pharmacists can work in a wide variety of locations including community pharmacies, clinics, hospital pharmacies, pharmacy regulation bodies, drug companies, universities, government organisations, or they can own their own pharmacy.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/pharmacy

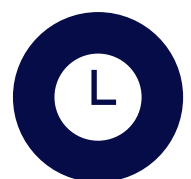
Hone your practical skills in our Professional Practice Laboratory, where you'll use the latest procedures and technologies. You'll also get real-life experience at our pharmacy clinic – the only university pharmacy clinic in Australasia.



Four years full-time
(including one year HSFY)



Dunedin



Apply for HSFY
Check website for
updated application dates

Bachelor of Physiotherapy

Tohu Paetahi

Haumanu Korikori

Physiotherapists play an essential role in helping people achieve optimal physical function and healthy lifestyles. They treat people of all ages and from all backgrounds – from babies with breathing issues to people with cerebral palsy and sporting injuries, as well as those who have recently given birth, or are recovering from a stroke or surgery.

Learn to assess, treat, and help prevent a wide range of physical limitations and dysfunctions using a person-centred approach that recognises how physical, psychological, and social factors influence health and recovery.

Alongside gaining expertise in exercise-based therapies and manual rehabilitation techniques, you'll build the communication and clinical skills needed to support long-term health and wellbeing. You'll graduate ready to work collaboratively, support equity, and promote hauora across diverse communities.

Career opportunities

Physiotherapists work in hospitals, aged care facilities, rehabilitation centres or private practice. Graduates find employment with sports teams, fitness centres, sports clinics, or schools, and many establish their own private practices. Opportunities also exist within large companies as occupational health and safety professionals, and in the areas of health management and policy.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/physiotherapy

We have a long-standing international reputation as a leader in education, research and clinical practice. Our programmes are informed by the latest research and continually improved to keep in step with leading-edge physiotherapy practice.



Four years full-time
(including one year HSFY)



Dunedin



Apply for HSFY
Check website for updated
application dates



“The course is very hands-on – we got to interact with patients in the early stages of the second year – which was good for me because I find it easier to learn through practical means.

“I enjoyed the support and fun opportunities amongst my cohort, and interacting with members of the community and helping them through my placements.”

Hamish Laing

Bachelor of Physiotherapy

Physiotherapist, Elite Physiotherapy



“The teaching staff were incredibly supportive, kind and invested a lot into our success. I also enjoyed the Faculty of Dentistry facilities, from the clinic spaces to the locker rooms where my friends and I spent many moments debriefing after long days, and the common rooms where we relaxed during breaks. The building itself is beautiful and inspiring – it motivated me every day.”

Loran Surendran

Bachelor of Dental Surgery

Bachelor of Dental Surgery Tohu Paetahi o te Hāparapara ā-Niho

Dentistry combines a high degree of manual dexterity and precision with strong scientific knowledge and excellent communication skills. As a dentist, you'll be the leader of an oral health team, diagnosing and carrying out treatments to suit each patient's needs.

Taught by leading academics and active practitioners, you'll hone your clinical skills, first in simulation classes and laboratories and then on patients. You'll delve into the scientific foundations of anatomy, physiology, oral biology, and biomaterials, and learn how to communicate professionally with your patients.

Learn in Aotearoa's only dental teaching hospital

Located next to the University, in the heart of Dunedin's health precinct, you'll help real patients and train alongside Oral Health and Dental Technology students, giving you the experience of working in an integrated, professional dental team from the start.

Study timeline

After admission from HSFY (or from other entry categories), you'll undertake a further four years of study within the Faculty of Dentistry. In your fifth (final) year, you'll undertake clinical work in either Dunedin or Auckland.

Career opportunities

As a graduate, you can practice in New Zealand and Australia. In New Zealand, there are opportunities to work in private general practice, a hospital, community clinic or a defence-based practice. Dentistry provides considerable variety and lifelong learning as you work to maintain your practising standards.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/dentistry

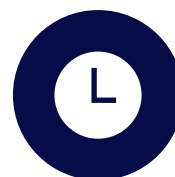
Dentistry is ranked #1 in New Zealand and #44 worldwide (2025 QS World Rankings).



Five years full-time
(including one year HSFY)



Years 1–4: Dunedin
Year 5: Auckland or Dunedin



Apply for HSFY
Check website for updated
application dates

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery Tohu Paetahi Rongōā Tohu Paetahi Hāparapara

Being a doctor is a challenging and exciting career that requires the highest level of clinical competency, excellent communication and research skills, and a high standard of professional and ethical behaviour.

At Otago, you'll be taught by experienced clinicians who are at the forefront of modern practice. You'll spend your first two years at Otago Medical School where topics will include clinical skills, integrated cases, Early Professional Experience, medical sciences, ethics, professional development, and evidence-based medicine.

There is a wide range of specialisation available in the public and private sectors – most doctors choose to complete postgraduate training in their chosen specialty.

Clinical training

For your final three years of study, you'll undertake clinical training in either Christchurch, Wellington or Dunedin (and their associated regional sites). You'll rotate around a variety of specialties, gaining exposure to medical disciplines and contexts, and take part in a Rural Medical Immersion Programme.

Professional registration

Before you can practise as a doctor in New Zealand, you must register with the Medical Council of New Zealand and complete a two-year internship.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/medicine

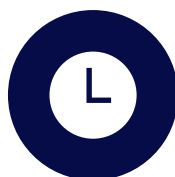
Gain practical experience in our state-of-the-art anatomy lab and clinical simulation centres.



Six years full-time
(including one year HSFY)



Years 1–3: Dunedin
Years 4–6: Dunedin,
Christchurch or Wellington
(and associated regional sites)



Apply for HSFY
Check website for updated
application dates



“I first experienced Otago through the REACH Otago Scholarship – an on-campus experience for Year 13 Māori students interested in a career in health. I applied, left the North Island for the first time and my eyes were opened to all the possibilities the University of Otago had to offer for someone like me: a young, Māori female, who would be the first in their family to attend university.”

Jackie Katipa-Maikuku

Ngāti Maniapoto, Tainui,
Ngāti Mahuta

Postgraduate
Diploma in Obstetrics
and Medical Gynaecology,
Bachelor of Medicine
and Bachelor of Surgery



“My first job out of university was as a research assistant working with a team of historians at Te Tari Whakatau / The Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana. Since moving to Melbourne in 2023, I’ve found work as a policy officer. The skills I’ve gained studying and practicing history continue to serve me well in this field of work – whether it’s the ability to swiftly gather and synthesise a range of information, or just being able to put together a structured argument in a clear way.”

Tom Rawcliffe

Bachelor of Arts with Honours
(History)

Senior Policy Officer, Department of
Premier and Cabinet (Victoria)

Bachelor of Arts Tohu Paetahi Toi

When you study for a Bachelor of Arts, you’re really studying society and human behaviour. Analysing differing experiences and viewpoints helps us figure out ways to tackle the big issues facing our world today, from inequality and sustainability to communication and crime management.

Our graduates find work in almost every part of the workforce, including digital media and AI leadership, environmental policy, communications, museums and cultural centres, entrepreneurship, tourism, business and banking, policy development, scientific ethics and compliance, and government and the diplomatic service.

otago.ac.nz/courses/qualifications/bachelor-of-arts

Subjects

Anthropology (includes Archaeology and Social Anthropology)	Geography	Popular Music*
Biblical Studies	German	Psychology
Buddhist Studies*	Global Studies	Religious Studies
Chinese	Greek*	Science of Religion*
Christian Thought and History	History	Sociology
Classics	Human Services Law*	Spanish
Communication Studies	Indigenous Studies	Sport Development and Management
Computer Studies	Irish Studies*	Statistics
Criminology	Japanese	TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)*
Dance*	Language and Linguistics	Theatre Studies
Data Science	Latin*	Theology*
Economics	Linguistics	Tourism, Languages and Cultures
Education	Māori Studies	Writing*
English	Mathematics	
English and Linguistics	Music	
Environment and Society*	Music Production*	
Film and Media Studies	Pacific Studies	
French	Pastoral Studies*	
Gender Studies	Philosophy	
	Philosophy, Politics and Economics	
	Politics	

*Minor subject only.



Three years full-time

Bachelor of Laws Tohu Paetahi Ture

A Law degree gives you the rigorous training needed for a profession that shapes society and drives change. It's intellectually challenging, highly respected, and provides a deep understanding of how rules, decisions, and institutions influence people's lives.

Law is a comprehensive degree in its own right, and students are drawn to it for many reasons: a desire to advocate, curiosity about how society is organised, or an interest in tackling complex issues from multiple angles. Many graduates move into legal practice, while others apply legal expertise across sectors such as government, business, health, policy, and the community.

Many students choose to build on this by completing a double degree (also called a conjoint degree). Pairing Law with disciplines from Arts, Social Sciences, Music, Science, Commerce, and Health Sciences allows students to develop expertise in areas like public policy, environmental issues, public health, business, technology, or the creative industries. These combinations reflect the diverse ways legal knowledge intersects with real-world problems.

Whatever path you take, Law equips you with a powerful way of thinking and a foundation that opens doors – to the legal profession and far beyond. It prepares you not just for a career, but for making a meaningful impact.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/law

You don't need specific subjects to study Law, but strong language and analytical skills are a big advantage. Interests in social justice, business, and current events also help. Activities like debating, kapa haka, or volunteering can build the communication, cultural awareness, and critical thinking skills valued in legal study and practice.



Four years full-time



“One of the aspects I enjoy most about studying Law at Otago is the flexibility of the course structure. After second year, students can choose from a wide range of electives, allowing me to tailor the degree to my interests. This has given me the freedom to explore topics like environmental law, which align with my passion for using law to address societal challenges.”

Zoe Cameron

Studying for a Bachelor of Laws with Honours, and a Bachelor of Arts (Philosophy, Politics and Economics)



“The MusB enabled me to pursue performing, composing, conducting and musicology, and also allowed me to explore other disciplines. Students are involved in the local music scene, from playing in orchestras and singing in operas to performing at local music venues. The people at the School of Performing Arts were really supportive and fantastic.”

Nathaniel Otley

Bachelor of Music with Honours

2024 SOUNZ Contemporary Award
Te Tohu Auaha winner

Composer in Residence
NZSO National Youth Orchestra

Bachelor of Music Tohu Paetahi Pūoro

We teach performance, composition, songwriting and music production, as well as music theory, history and culture. You'll have the opportunity to explore classical, traditional and contemporary music from Aotearoa and the world.

If you want Music to be the main focus of your degree, you should apply for the Bachelor of Music. The programme is mainly made up of Music papers, but may include up to five papers in other subjects across the University. You can complete a MusB without any specialisation, or it can be endorsed in Composition, Performance, or Music Production. You can also include a minor in another subject within your MusB.

If you'd like to study more papers from other subject areas in addition to Music, a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Music is a good option. Or, you can study Music as a major alongside Commerce or Science subjects with the Bachelor of Arts and Commerce, or the Bachelor of Arts and Science.

Music is available as a minor subject for a range of degrees, in three specialisations: Music, Music Production, and Popular Music. You can also add standalone Music papers to most degrees across the University.

Students studying Classical Music have the opportunity to play with the Dunedin Symphony Orchestra (DSO). Several scholarships are available, include a DSO Scholarship and a Six60 Scholarship.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/music

Our excellent facilities include a recording studio, performance spaces and practice rooms, all equipped with the latest technology.



Three years full-time

Bachelor of Performing Arts Tohu Paetahi Whakaaturanga Toi

Studying for the Bachelor of Performing Arts at Otago gives you a rare opportunity to explore more than one performing art form – music, theatre and dance – blended into a single degree.

Develop your skills in acting, dance, directing, choreography, devising, music performance (singing or instrument), composition, songwriting, and technical production, and learn about the theoretical and historical foundations of theatre, music and dance.

You'll have opportunities to train and perform in a fully equipped theatre, as well as music and dance studios and performance spaces.

Career opportunities

You'll develop many skills that employers seek, including teamwork and leadership, effective oral and written communication, analysis, reflective practice, organisational skills and time management. Cultural knowledge and skills gained through creative practice and historical and theoretical study are valued in many careers, including journalism, teaching, advertising, marketing and law.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/performing-arts

Entry to some Performance Music papers is by audition. Applications must be made by 1 September of the year before you plan to study at Otago.



Three years full-time



“I chose to study the Bachelor of Performing Arts at Otago so I could enhance and work on all aspects of the performing arts, instead of just one. I was also able to study papers outside of the performing arts that interested me – which I wouldn't have been able to do at other performing arts schools! I had high expectations about the programme, and they were definitely met.”

Hazel Simes

Ngāi Te Rangī, Ngāpuhi

Bachelor of Performing Arts



“I wanted to be a change-maker, helping young people find the right path to a better future. My studies opened my eyes to how harsh our world can be, and how social workers are forever trying to make it better. Otago prepared me well for a challenging and rewarding career, and has opened doors to many different pathways that I want to explore.”

Tuluia Sekone-Fraser

Bachelor of Social Work

Youth Adviser

Bachelor of Social Work Tohu Paetahi Tauwhiro

Gain the skills, knowledge, and real-world experience to understand society, support communities, and make a meaningful difference for individuals.

Social Work is the study of how to promote human rights, social justice, and wellbeing through working with people, whānau (families), and communities in practical, responsive ways.

Studying Social Work at Otago helps you develop the theoretical knowledge, intervention skills, and ethical grounding needed to engage with real-world challenges, such as inequality, child protection, health and disability services, justice, and indigenous and Māori perspectives.

This degree will prepare you for the profession through a combination of theory and supervised fieldwork. Students initially enrol in the Social Work pre-professional Bachelor of Arts and apply for admission to the Social Work programme near the end of their second year.

Career opportunities

The Bachelor of Social Work is approved by the Social Workers' Registration Board of New Zealand. Graduates pursue careers in government services, not-for-profit agencies, iwi-based organisations, and private practice.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/social-work

120 days of supervised practical social work placement over the final two years of the degree.



Four years full-time

Bachelor of Teaching Tohu Paetahi Whakaako

Gain the contemporary theory, curriculum knowledge and professional experience needed to become an outstanding teacher. You can study initial teacher education at our campuses in Dunedin or Invercargill.

Choose one of three endorsements, which will prepare you for teaching in a specific setting of the New Zealand education system:

- **Early Childhood Education.** Offered at Dunedin and Invercargill campuses.
- **Primary Education.** Offered at Dunedin and Invercargill campuses.
- **Te Pōkai Mātauranga o te Ao Rua / Primary Bicultural Education.** This programme enables graduates to teach in Māori-medium or English-medium primary and intermediate schools. Taught from a kaupapa Māori perspective, there is an emphasis on te reo me ngā tikanga Māori. Offered at Invercargill campus only.

Postgraduate options include:

- **Graduate Diploma of Teaching.** A one-year, school-based programme for graduates with a bachelor's degree or applicants with approved equivalent professional experience in education.
- **Master of Teaching and Learning.** This degree is for people who have already graduated with a university degree. It is usually completed in one calendar year of full-time study, or its equivalent in part-time study, and can be endorsed in Early Childhood Education, Primary Education, or Secondary Education.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/teaching

Our programmes qualify graduates to apply for registration and certification as New Zealand teachers in the early childhood, primary, and secondary education sectors.



“Having amazing lecturers and tutors who were qualified teachers with classroom experience hugely benefited my teaching studies. They could present the theory work in an authentic way and provide actual examples linked to what happens in the classroom.”

“The placements throughout this degree were some of the best learning opportunities. They allowed me to see how other teachers communicated with their students and always emphasised that relationships are key to a happy and successful classroom.”

Kalas Taukamo

Ngāti Porou

Bachelor of Teaching
(Primary Education) incorporating
Catechetical Studies

Teacher



“I loved noticing things in the Bible or Theology that were confusing to me – things that didn’t seem to make sense, or I just didn’t understand – and bringing questions to my teachers. Sometimes they had answers, other times they put me onto resources to help me figure out the answers myself, or we’d wrestle through the questions together. I really enjoyed both the expertise and humility of my lecturers as they shared their knowledge with their students.”

Sophie Silvester

Bachelor of Theology
(Biblical Studies)

Bachelor of Theology Tohu Paetahi Whakapono Karaitiana

Theology offers the chance to explore faith, yourself and the world. Otago offers the only university Theology programme in New Zealand, with campus and distance courses on Biblical Studies, Christian Theology, Church History, Theology and Public Issues, Pastoral and Practical Theology, Ministry, and Chaplaincy.

Many students study Theology to enquire further into their own faith, but others simply have a broad curiosity about the world and human experience. Christianity has been a major force in the development of western civilisation, helping to shape the world in which we live today, so there is enormous value in coming to an informed understanding of the Christian faith.

Students who take papers in Theology often uncover insights that complement their studies in subjects such as Classics, History, Social Sciences, Politics and Law.

Our programme also offers papers on aspects of Māori and Pacific theology.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/theology

The Diploma in Theology is a one-year undergraduate qualification which involves seven papers, mainly at 100-level.



Three years full-time

Bachelor of Science Tohu Paetahi Pūtaiao

Open doors to a world where curiosity meets career potential. Our BSc programme combines cutting-edge knowledge with practical skills that employers value, all within modern teaching and research facilities.

The psychologist who understands sport science. The food scientist who understands consumer behaviour. The ecologist who uses geospatial technology. Finding your future career isn't just about going deep in one subject, it's about connecting ideas across them. At Otago, following multiple interests and building career-ready skills aren't separate tracks – they're the same degree.

You can easily add papers from Commerce, Health Sciences, Social Sciences, and Arts to create a breadth of skills that employers value. Or, study a combined degree like the Bachelor of Arts and Science, or Bachelor of Commerce and Science.

If the natural sciences interest you, there's nowhere quite like Otago. From the Portobello Marine Laboratory on Otago Harbour to field stations in Doubtful Sound and Stewart Island, from Antarctica to the Southern Alps – few universities in the world can offer this kind of access.

otago.ac.nz/courses/qualifications/bachelor-of-science

Subjects

Agricultural Innovation	Genetics	Plant Biotechnology
Anatomy	Geographical	Psychology
Aquaculture and Fisheries	Information Systems	Sport and
Biochemistry	Geography	Exercise Nutrition
Botany	Geology	Sport Development
Chemistry	Human Nutrition	and Management
Computational Modelling*	Land Planning	Sports Technology*
Computer Science	and Development	Statistics
Data Science	Marine Science	Sustainable Energy
Ecology	Mathematics	Surveying Measurement
Economics	Microbiology	Zoology
Environment and Society*	Neuroscience	<i>*Minor subject only.</i>
Environmental	Pathology*	
Management	Pharmacology	
Exercise and Sport	and Toxicology	
Science	Physical Education,	
Food Science	Activity and Health	
Forensic Analytical	Physics	
Science	Physiology	



“I manage a team of nutritionists and dietitians across New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory to improve food literacy skills in the community. My degree prepared me by giving me excellent verbal communication skills to translate nutrition concepts into meaningful behaviour change. My studies also fuelled a huge passion to share my privileges and knowledge of nutrition and food, to hopefully improve food access for everyone.”

Ingrid Mulder

Master of Applied Science (Advanced Nutrition Practice), Bachelor of Science (Major: Human Nutrition, Minor: Plant Biotechnology)

NEST Team Lead, OzHarvest



“Surveying is such a variable degree, and I love its diversity. I hope to spend my career working with my people and the wider community where I would like to have a positive influence on safeguarding our environment, while focusing on the sustainability of our future.”

Malindi Reihana-Ruka

Ngāpuhi

Studying for a Bachelor of Surveying

Bachelor of Surveying Tohu Paetahi Rūri

Looking for a career that combines cutting-edge technology, diverse outdoor environments, and excellent job prospects? The Bachelor of Surveying could be perfect for you.

Through hands-on fieldwork, practical classes and the use of the latest technology, you'll learn how to map everything from city streets to the ocean floor. You'll create precise 3D maps using drones and lasers, design sustainable neighbourhoods and infrastructure, and understand property rights.

Qualified surveyors are in high demand and most of our students have a job secured before they graduate. Otago offers the only degree recognised as a prerequisite to becoming a professional land surveyor in New Zealand. It's also an internationally recognised degree,

with many graduates choosing to work and travel overseas. Job opportunities are available in land, engineering and hydrographic surveying; land planning; urban development; and geospatial sectors.

To study for the Bachelor of Surveying, you must apply for Surveying First Year. Students who successfully pass the first year then apply to second-year classes in Surveying. Surveying First Year is also an excellent pathway to other BSc courses.

otago.ac.nz/subjects/surveying-surveying-measurement

If you enjoy maths, technology, and want a career where you aren't stuck behind a desk, Surveying could be a perfect fit.



Four years full-time



Selection into second year is based on your first-year results

Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Software Engineering Tohu Paetahi o te Pūhanga Tāhiko ki te Pūhanga Tāhiko Pūmanawa

This four-year degree prepares you for employment as a professional software engineer. This isn't just coding. You'll learn the full development lifecycle from scoping and design through to testing and maintenance. You'll also develop problem-solving and communication abilities essential for working with stakeholders and development teams.

You'll go straight into Software Engineering from first year – no general engineering year. The programme progresses from programming fundamentals and computer science through to software architecture, quality assurance and project management. In your final year, you'll complete advanced projects and specialise through electives in areas like AI, networking or cyber security. Throughout the degree, you'll complete 800 hours of professional development through internships, placements and work experience.

The degree is internationally recognised through the Washington Accord. Graduates work across the entire

software lifecycle in roles including business analyst, developer, DevOps/ testing, user experience designer and project management. Your skills will be in demand across industries from tech and government to finance and healthcare.

To apply, you'll need university entrance plus NCEA Level 3 calculus. Apply for Engineering First Year (BE Hons) for Software Engineering. Progress to second year by achieving a B average in six compulsory first-year papers. There is no cap on the number of students entering second year.

otago.ac.nz/courses/qualifications/bachelor-of-engineering-with-honours

Practical work experience integrated into the degree means you'll graduate job ready with a portfolio that impresses employers.



Four years full-time



Selection into second year is based on your first-year results



“One of the papers I enjoyed was Software Project Management. It was centred around group work and helped with presenting and speaking skills. I’m now employed in a graduate programme. I work for the network and securities team doing software engineering work, building internal speed tests, scripting our automations, and liaising with stakeholders about AI capability.”

Dyrel Lumiwes

Bachelor of Science (Major: Computer Science, Minor: Software Engineering)

Study multiple interests

Combined degrees

Interested in geography and economics? Music and maths? Marketing and food science? Our combined degrees allow you to build the ultimate skill set. With hundreds of combinations available, you can personalise your degree to suit your interests, strengths and career plans. A combined degree usually takes four years to complete.

Bachelor of Arts and Commerce

Choose two different major subjects, one from Arts and one from Business.

Bachelor of Commerce and Science

Choose two different major subjects, one from Business and one from Science.

Bachelor of Arts and Science

Choose two different major subjects, one from Arts and one from Science.

otago.ac.nz/combine

Programme structure for a Bachelor of Arts and Science

YEAR 1	Arts major 100-level 18 points	Arts major 100-level 18 points	Arts at any level 18 points	Science major 100-level 18 points	Science major 100-level 18 points	Science major 100-level 18 points	Any paper at any level 18 points
YEAR 2	Arts major 200-level 18 points	Arts major 200-level 18 points	Arts major 200-level 18 points	Science major 200-level 18 points	Science major 200-level 18 points	Science major 200-level 18 points	Any paper at any level 18 points
YEAR 3	Arts major 300-level 18 points	Arts major 300-level 18 points	Arts at any level 18 points	Science major 300-level 18 points	Science major 300-level 18 points	Sciences at any level 18 points	Any paper at any level 18 points
YEAR 4	Arts major 300-level 18 points	Arts major 300-level 18 points	Arts at any level 18 points	Science major 300-level 18 points	Science major 300-level 18 points	Sciences at any level 18 points	

 Arts major
 Any Arts subject
 Science major
 Any Sciences subject
 Any subject

Double degrees

It's possible to take two degrees at the same time. This doesn't mean you double your workload. You can count some papers twice by studying them in one degree and cross crediting them to the other degree. If you're considering a double degree, talk to your schools' liaison officer or a University course adviser.

otago.ac.nz/liaison



A

Accounting

Accounting is the financial language of business and non-profit organisations – it's probably the most useful tool you can have when entering the business or non-profit world. If you understand the concepts and terminology of accounting, you'll have a good grasp of business problems and their solutions. Following the completion of your degree, you'll have the opportunity to become professionally qualified.

Career opportunities

Many graduates start their careers in chartered accountancy firms, often working in taxation or auditing, or as advisers to a range of businesses. New Zealand's leading accounting firms express a strong preference for Otago-trained graduates and recruitment fairs are held in March each year.

Agricultural Innovation

How do we feed a global population that is expected to reach 9.8 billion by 2050? And how can we lessen the impact of extreme weather events, greenhouse gas emissions, and the decline of soil and water quality? By studying Agricultural Innovation, you'll help pioneer solutions to these problems. The teaching programme is primarily science-focused but also incorporates the social, environmental, and economic aspects of agriculture, including traditional and contemporary Māori agriculture and mātauranga Māori.

Career opportunities

Graduates will have the expertise to work in a diverse range of sectors, including biosecurity, environment protection agencies, farming or horticulture, food manufacturing, food assurance programmes, organic nutrient and fertiliser companies, regulatory agencies (regional government), and synthetic food production.

Anatomy

Anatomy is the inside story of who we are. It's a diverse, vibrant, and visual subject that explores how the structure of the body relates to the functions it performs. From single cells to complex systems, Anatomy helps us understand how we grow, move, think, and live.

Career opportunities

Our graduates can be found in medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, and nursing. Others have taken technical roles in medical or agricultural laboratories, or research roles with national scientific bodies, Crown Research Institutes, or pharmaceutical, medical or agribusiness companies.

Anthropology

(Includes Archaeology and Social Anthropology)

Anthropologists ask questions about human variation and human differences. They study issues that affect different societies, such as changing economic and political arrangements of power, sustainable living alternatives, the tensions around community inclusion and exclusion, and the contributions of local revivals, resurgences and resistance to our changing worlds.

Career opportunities

Anthropology graduates work in a variety of fields including community development, the police force, disaster relief, historic preservation, foreign affairs, the media, and within government or local bodies.

Aquaculture and Fisheries

If you're fascinated by seas, lakes or how food is grown in water, Aquaculture and Fisheries opens exciting doors. You'll explore how wild fisheries and aquaculture (the farming of aquatic species) combine science, sustainability and innovation. The subject tackles big questions: how to grow our food responsibly, how to protect fish stocks, and how to reduce waste and environmental impact.

Career opportunities

Graduates find work in aquaculture production, farm management, fisheries science, stock assessment roles, environmental consultancy and resource management.

Archaeology

To study Archaeology at Otago, your undergraduate major will be in Anthropology, with papers in Archaeology. Studying Archaeology will broaden your understanding of the development of human culture and learn how complex societies have emerged throughout the world.

Career opportunities

Graduates take up positions in archaeological research, heritage management, museum studies or government agencies. They also go on to postgraduate study in Archaeology.

B

Biblical Studies

Biblical Studies explores Jewish and Christian scriptures, focusing on the Old and New Testaments in their ancient contexts. Students can also study classical Hebrew and New Testament Greek to an advanced level.

Career opportunities

Graduates have found careers in teaching, social work, policy analysis, journalism, and librarianship, as well as a variety of church-based roles.

Biochemistry

Biochemists find out how the molecules in living things work. You'll focus on processes at a molecular level and use this knowledge to explain how cells and organisms behave. You'll study how cells communicate with each other and with molecules in the environment, and how they can be affected by the environment itself.

Biochemistry also looks at the biological, chemical and sometimes structural basis for disease, including genetic disorders, infection, neurodegeneration and cancer. You'll learn how diagnosis, drug design, and therapeutic treatments at the molecular level are improving health outcomes for society.

Career opportunities

Studying Biochemistry is ideal preparation for a career in research, product development, forensics, public health, bioinformatics, agribusiness, patent law, science policy, publishing, teaching and science communication, commerce, and marketing.

The New Zealand biotechnology industry has opportunities for biochemists in livestock improvement, the development of food crops, winemaking, the protection of native flora and fauna, and pharmaceuticals.

Bioethics

(Minor subject only)

Science, technology and healthcare are powerful tools that bring ethical and legal challenges and opportunities. Bioethics explores the current and future impacts of the biosciences and healthcare on people and society, animals and the environment.

Biomedical Sciences

(Degree – see page 45)

Botany

If you've ever wondered how forests thrive, why some plants flourish underwater, or what happens when ecosystems shift, Botany provides the answers.

You'll explore everything from microscopic algae and mosses to trees and seaweeds, uncovering how they function and how they interact with everything around them.

Studying Botany gives you a deep understanding of plant biology, ecology, evolution, physiology and biotechnology. It teaches you to understand how plants adapt to challenges like climate change, habitat loss and invasive species, and how to breed better crops to feed growing populations.

Career opportunities

Botany equips you for a career in conservation, biosecurity, environmental consultancy, research and science communication.

Buddhist Studies

(Minor subject only)

Buddhism shapes the history and culture of many Asian societies and continues to influence how people understand identity, community, and meaning. You'll be introduced to Buddhism through its Indian beginnings, then explore its growth across Asia.

Business Analytics

Vast amounts of data are generated every day by businesses and organisations, social activity, video streaming, medical imagery and more. The ability to sift through this data and extract useful information is in hot demand.

You'll learn how to apply analytics skills and techniques to organisational data to obtain useful insights. You'll develop sought-after skills that are required in every area of business, including accounting, finance, marketing, management, and economics.

Career opportunities

Graduates could go on to become a data analyst or a business intelligence analyst. Other specific roles may include marketing analyst, CRM analyst, financial analyst and HR analyst.



Chemistry

Chemistry is the science of matter and change. It underpins everything we see, breathe, taste and touch. At Otago you'll get to ask big questions: How do molecules interact? How can we create new materials or design better drugs? How can we analyse tiny pollutants in the environment?

You'll develop strong problem-solving skills, learn how to think in a chemical framework and build knowledge that takes you far because chemistry is central to so many scientific fields.

Career opportunities

Typical pathways include research and development; analytical lab work and quality control; environmental testing and pollution management; roles in agriculture, horticulture and fisheries science; science education, communication, or chemistry-related business and technology fields.

Chinese

China is one of New Zealand's most important global partners. Learning Chinese opens doors to careers in business, trade, diplomacy, and tourism – giving you a competitive edge in a world where cultural understanding and international communication are highly valued.

Career opportunities

Career paths include tourism, education, trade, banking, mass media, interpretation/translation, as well as in foreign affairs and other government agencies.

Christian Thought and History

Ever wondered how Christian beliefs and practices have shaped our societies? Studying Christian Thought and History helps you understand this global faith in both historical and contemporary contexts. You'll dig into the origins, development and global impact of Christianity, and discover how Christian traditions influence society in Aotearoa and beyond.

Career opportunities

Graduates develop valuable skills in clear thinking, research and communication. They go on to develop careers in a variety of fields, including teaching, social work, journalism, librarianship, administration, aid and development agencies, government department work, and church leadership and ministry.

Classics

(Including Greek and Latin minor subjects)

The cultures of Greece, Rome and the Mediterranean world lie at the root of many modern traditions and institutions. By studying the Classics, you'll gain an understanding of these ancient civilisations and a deeper insight into the challenges of the 21st century.

You'll develop your awareness of language, your insight into literature and art, your understanding of history and politics, your knowledge of religion and mythology, and your appreciation of ethical and social issues.

Career opportunities

Classics graduates have made careers in school and university teaching, university administration, foreign affairs, trade and industry, social welfare, local government, tourism, computing, insurance, law, librarianship, bookselling, publishing, museums and art galleries, fashion and design, broadcasting, journalism, tourism, and the theatre.

Communication Studies

If you've ever wondered how media, culture and communication shape the way we live, work and connect, Communication Studies is for you.

This dynamic field explores how messages move through digital platforms, print, broadcast, and everyday conversation, and how they influence identity, politics, culture and commerce. You'll develop both critical and creative skills as you investigate how communication systems evolve and what that means for society.

Career opportunities

Graduates find work in a wide variety of fields, including journalism, education, advertising, administration, media production, archival and curatorial work, media policy analysis, public relations, and tourism.

Community Health Care

The Bachelor of Health Sciences majoring in Community Health Care is a three-year degree for those who want to help shape the future of healthcare and respond to the challenges facing our healthcare system.

Develop an understanding of health and wellbeing, disability, human development, and common health problems. Learn about the experiences of community members as they make their way through life and navigate the healthcare system.

Career opportunities

You'll be well equipped to gain employment in a variety of community roles within primary and secondary healthcare settings, policy and managerial roles, or in health and disability services.

Computational Modelling

(Minor subject only)

Computational Modelling formulates and models real-world problems, then uses computing to develop solutions. You could help create a new product, model the survival of an endangered species, or map the wave patterns of the ocean from space.

Computer Science

Whether you're interested in artificial intelligence, computer animation, gaming, software design or robotics, studying Computer Science at Otago will give you the expertise to thrive in a constantly evolving sector.

Computer Science is fundamentally about learning to analyse, design and implement computer algorithms and systems. You'll gain practical programming skills in industry-standard languages alongside transferable skills that enable you to be part of dynamic tech teams.

Career opportunities

Computer scientists enjoy strong global demand and excellent salaries. With technologies changing rapidly, there's always something new and exciting to learn, making this a challenging and rewarding career perfect for those who enjoy problem-solving and logical thinking. Career paths include game design and development, CGI movie production, automotive software development, and medical informatics.

Criminology

Criminology is a rapidly growing field that critically examines crime, justice, and social control. At Otago, you'll explore the causes of crime, how society responds, and the workings of the criminal justice system. You'll also analyse media portrayals of crime, evolving legal boundaries, and justice policies in Aotearoa and beyond.

Criminology pairs well with subjects like Psychology, Sociology, Politics, and Film and Media Studies, enhancing your understanding of legal systems, justice institutions, and social change. Whether you're interested in law, social work, public policy, or community advocacy, this degree equips you with the critical thinking skills to navigate and influence the justice landscape.

Career opportunities

A background in Criminology enhances career prospects in law enforcement, justice, and social services. You could work as a policy adviser or analyst in justice and crime prevention, an investigative journalist, a forensic social worker or forensic psychologist (with additional qualifications), a youth justice worker or case manager, or a victim support advocate.

D

Dance

(Minor subject only)

Dance brings together movement, culture, and creativity. You'll explore how the body expresses ideas, emotions, and identity while developing collaboration, communication, and critical thinking skills.

Data Science

Data Science combines techniques and methods from computer science, information science, and statistics. Through a combination of lectures, tutorials and practical labs, you'll learn how to extract insights from large, complex data sets and communicate this knowledge through effective modelling and visualisation.

You'll have opportunities to dive into areas that interest you, whether that's efficient computation, data storage infrastructure, data analysis or applied machine learning. You'll also gain valuable problem-solving, communication and data visualisation skills, making you a sought-after asset in any organisation.

Career opportunities

Studying Data Science leads to opportunities in fields as diverse as banking and biotechnology, entertainment and education, gaming and government, medicine and manufacturing, retail and research.

Dental Surgery

(Degree – see page 54)

Dental Technology

(Degree – see page 48)

Drugs and Human Health

Explore how drugs are discovered, how they act on cells and organs, and why safety and toxicology matter in real-world healthcare. You'll study human biology, chemistry, pharmacology and physiology through the lens of drug action, building the analytical and problem-solving skills that employers value. You'll also explore issues that matter in Aotearoa, including equitable access to medicines and how treatments support Māori, Pacific and rural communities.

E

Ecology

Ecology is your invitation to understand how plants, animals and environments connect, change and shape our world. At its heart, Ecology gives you the tools to explore questions like: where do organisms live, why do they live there, and how do they interact with each other and with their surroundings?

You'll gain real-world skills and up-to-date knowledge of global ecological trends. Most importantly, you'll learn how to use that knowledge to protect habitats, manage natural resources and care for ecosystems, both here in Aotearoa and around the world.

Career opportunities

Graduates find careers in Crown Research institutes, government agencies, local and regional councils, environmental and ecological consultancies, conservation and ecotourism operations, and data analysis and environmental modelling.

Economics

Economic thinking drives decision-making in just about every area of society, from government and business policy to personal decisions. This programme will equip you with the skills to interpret, analyse and question diverse economic theories and policies in a real-life context.

Do you enjoy wrestling with tough questions? Get ready to debate complex issues around unemployment, economic growth, housing, income inequality, international trade, sustainable development and the environment. You'll learn how to analyse ideas and come to your own conclusions – valuable skills for just about any career.

Career opportunities

A degree in Economics opens doors to a range of rewarding careers in the public or private sectors. You could become a policy analyst, a business consultant, an economics researcher, a financial adviser or a diplomat.

Education

The study of education draws on a range of disciplines, including history, philosophy, psychology, indigenous studies, politics and sociology, to explore the transformational nature of education and the learning and teaching process.

You'll develop a range of sought-after skills including critical thinking, problem-solving, strong interpersonal skills, and written and verbal communication skills. Education is relevant to any work involving people!

Career opportunities

Education is excellent preparation for teaching and can also be useful for careers in research, policy analysis, social work, the counselling professions and many areas of public service.

English

From the medieval to the modern, we offer an extensive range of papers to suit all tastes. English majors choose from a selection of course offerings including Māori and Pacific literature, literature and psychology, environmental literature, revolutions in poetry, and literary controversies.

Literature creates a space in which writers can explore alternatives to the status quo and rehearse solutions to problems, whether they are social, political or environmental. In a turbulent world, literature offers hope and a place where you can be yourself, while learning about others.

Career opportunities

Our graduates find work as editors, copywriters, creative writers, journalists, teachers, librarians, analysts, diplomats, politicians and policymakers.

English and Linguistics

(See Linguistics)

Entrepreneurship

(Degree – see page 43)

Entrepreneurship

(Minor subject only)

The ability to critically evaluate and communicate new ideas is a sought-after skill set in every sector of the economy. From start-ups to existing businesses, non-profits, environmental enterprises, and iwi and Pacific communities, entrepreneurial skills and innovative thinking are in high demand.

Environment and Society

(Minor subject only)

Explore the Earth's environmental systems and the impact humans have on our natural systems at global, national and regional scales. Examine environmental hazards and concerns and delve into the ethical, legislative, economic, and political responses to these issues.

Environmental Management

Learn how to combine scientific knowledge, management methods and an understanding of environmental legislation to provide solutions to environmental problems.

You'll delve into the science behind environmental systems and problems, learn about the biological, ecological and socio-economic drivers of environmental change, and gain expertise in environmental legislation.

Career opportunities

Graduates commonly pursue careers in government agencies, environmental consulting firms, agricultural research organisations, academic institutions, food security and export firms.

Exercise and Sport Science

Gain a scientific understanding of the four disciplines that underpin exercise and sport science: biomechanics, motor control/learning development, physiology and psychology. By applying the latest research and technology, you'll analyse how people co-ordinate movement to reduce injury and optimise performance in a variety of conditions and contexts.

With a teaching programme aligned with accrediting bodies in New Zealand and Australia, you'll graduate with career-ready skills that will open the door to jobs in many different industries.

Career opportunities

Our graduates build careers as sport scientists, exercise physiologists, mental skills trainers, performance analysts, technique analysts, strength and conditioning trainers and personal trainers. They also find work in research and development.



Film and Media Studies

If you're fascinated by film, television and online media, and how they influence culture, society and everyday life – this major is for you.

At Otago, you'll explore how moving images, screen technologies, and emerging AI tools make meaning, shape identities, and reflect power. You'll learn to think critically and creatively about the media that surrounds us. Courses range from the history of cinema and television to new media and global screen cultures.

Career opportunities

Graduates work in a variety of fields, including media production, journalism, content creation, archival and curatorial work, media policy, and government roles.

Finance

Finance is essential to understanding how individuals and organisations allocate resources and navigate risk. It explores both the theory and practice behind raising and spending money, with a strong focus on measuring and managing uncertainty. By studying Finance, you'll gain the practical tools needed to make sound investment decisions.

Career opportunities

Finance professionals are in demand across virtually every sector, from government and education to banking, insurance, and global investment firms. Otago graduates are known for their strong analytical skills and global competitiveness, with many building successful careers in New Zealand and internationally.

Food Science

At Otago we connect biology, chemistry and microbiology with real-world food systems and consumer trends. You'll discover how to take raw ingredients, turn them into delicious safe products, and get them out to the world. This means you're not just studying theory; you're building the foundations for innovation in food processing, nutrition, taste and sustainability.

With global demand for Food Science graduates and plenty of chances to work with industry-sponsored projects, you're stepping into a field that matters, now and in the future.

Career opportunities

There are exciting career options in product development, quality assurance, brewing, and technical sales. Graduates also find work in research institutes, and support food safety and compliance through regulatory or consulting roles.

Forensic Analytical Science

Explore the real science behind criminal investigations. Learn how small pieces of evidence can tell big stories, and how analytical techniques help us reconstruct events and link people to crime scenes. This diverse degree covers crime scene investigation, DNA analysis, chemical techniques, skeletal identification, and more. A Forensic Analytical Science degree will hone your critical thinking skills and teach you to apply core scientific techniques to real-world problems.

Career opportunities

Graduates work in forensic science, laboratories, government agencies, regulatory bodies tasked with managing natural resources, and research. The techniques you'll learn are fully applicable to criminal forensic work, although openings for criminal forensic scientists in New Zealand are limited and will require further study or employment experience.

French

Whether you're a complete beginner or a heritage speaker, our papers take you step-by-step towards Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française (DELF), the official French-government language certificate.

Career opportunities

Graduates work in a wide range of fields, including diplomacy, climate negotiations, humanitarian agencies, luxury tourism, journalism, international law, and bilingual tech startups.

Functional Human Biology

This major blends physiology, biochemistry, molecular biology and anatomy. You'll study how cells, tissues and organ systems function, how things go wrong in disease, and how research drives new treatments and technologies. By the time you graduate, you'll understand human biology from molecule to system, and have the scientific skills to make a meaningful impact in biotechnology, medicine and or scientific research.



Gender Studies

Explore how gender and sexuality have constantly shaped our lives, our cultures and the world around us. You'll look at big questions about identity, power, and equality, and learn to see connections between personal experience and global issues.

At Otago, we combine theory with real-world examples drawn from social media, television, film, and everyday life. You'll analyse cultural trends, challenge assumptions, and learn how to think critically about social change. Gender Studies is deeply connected with other subjects like Sociology, Criminology, Anthropology, History, Politics, and Education, so you can shape your degree around what excites you most.

Career opportunities

Graduates work in policy development and analysis, human rights, education, human resources, health and community advocacy, the media and social work.

Genetics

Genetics is the science of how living things inherit traits, evolve and adapt. Studying Genetics means asking big questions: How does a gene make a difference? How does variation shape populations? How can we use genetic insight to improve health or protect ecosystems?

At Otago, your study will be rooted in the fundamentals of biology and bursting with real-world relevance. Whether you're fascinated by medical breakthroughs, biodiversity, biotechnology, or environmental change, studying Genetics will give you the tools to explore these topics and many more.

Career opportunities

You could go on to become a biotechnology or pharmaceutical researcher, a conservation or biosecurity geneticist, a data scientist or bioinformatician in genomics, or a science communicator or policy adviser.

Geographic Information Systems

On this programme, you'll cover topics like mobile GIS and web mapping, remote sensing (including from drones) and GNSS (GPS) positioning. You'll gain skills in spatial analysis, cartographic presentation, 3D data capture and management. You'll reinforce your classroom learning through hands-on practical sessions and field trips. Plus, you'll get the chance to see how your degree relates to the workplace, with the opportunity to carry out work experience at the end of your second and/or third year.

Career opportunities

GIS is a multi-billion dollar industry worldwide and your skills will be in high demand in public service, local government, and business. You could work in urban and regional planning, kaupapa Māori resource management and consulting, or the delivery of location-based services.

Geography

Geographers study the environment – both physical and human – to find innovative responses to society's most pressing issues, from climate change and migration to globalisation and inequality.

On this programme, you'll explore the physical processes that shape the natural environment, the social and cultural processes that explain patterns of human activity, and the interactions between human activity and the natural world.

Career opportunities

Geography graduates find employment in government departments, private corporations and consultancies. They work in areas such as regional and resource planning, environmental management, natural resources (especially water) analysis, social and economic research, social services and regional development.

Geology

Studying the Earth beneath our feet is central to our transition to a sustainable future. You'll learn how to interpret Earth's formational history and the evolution of its lifeforms by analysing rocks, minerals, magma, fossils, ice and water.

You'll study how our planet's interior interacts with the oceans and atmosphere to regulate global change and become a master of critical observation and interpretation, from the molecular to plate tectonic scales.

Career opportunities

Geology graduates find work in environmental consulting, resource management, environmental restoration and geothermal/renewable energy projects. They may assess earthquake, landslide, and volcanic risks to support civil defence, conduct research, or provide geological expertise for engineering and construction projects.

German

Knowledge of German language and culture has long been an asset in Europe but it is also a major advantage within New Zealand. Germany is one of the world's largest contributors to research and development, and its well-funded universities are an important destination for scientists and students.

Career opportunities

Graduates work in teaching, the arts, science, the media, law, government departments (e.g. Foreign Affairs and Trade), tourism and business.

Global Studies

Global Studies is all about tackling the world's biggest challenges and finding your place in shaping the future. You'll dive into issues like inequality, the climate crisis, conflict, disinformation and artificial intelligence, while seeing how different cultures, systems and ideas connect.

The programme is flexible and hands-on, designed for curious thinkers who want to understand the world and make a difference. From day one, you'll get practical experience through projects and internships, and you'll have staff supporting you every step of the way.

Career opportunities

Communications and creative industries, environmental and human rights organisations, tourism, commerce, foreign affairs, government and public administration are just a few of the career areas open to you.

Greek

(Minor subject only – see Classics)

Experience the major works of Greek literature, drama, history and philosophy in the original language. Develop your Greek language skills and delve into the artefacts, ideas and deeds of ancient Greece.

H

Health Sciences First Year

(Entry programme – see page 44)

Health Sciences

(Degree – see page 46)

History

Studying the past helps us make sense of the present and shape the future, providing a crucial perspective for understanding an increasingly complex world. No discipline is better suited to this task than History.

In this programme, you'll explore a diverse range of topics, encountering political upheaval, cultural transformation, revolution, war and decolonisation across the globe.

Career opportunities

You could find work in areas ranging from journalism, teaching and public affairs to management and finance. Otago History graduates have gone on to work for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Te Papa Tongarewa, Canterbury Museum, AgResearch, and Heritage New Zealand.

Human Nutrition

Public and media scrutiny of what we eat has never been greater. In this programme, you'll delve into how nutrition influences health and disease.

Dive deep into topics like the biological foundations of nutrition, lifecycle nutrition, and strategies to improve the health of diverse communities. You'll also examine cultural and social influences on dietary habits, and master the art of effective communication about nutrition and health.

Career opportunities

A world of opportunity awaits. Graduates pursue fulfilling careers in the health sector, government organisations, research, teaching, high-performance sport, private practice, and the food industry. You could also become a registered nutritionist, opening doors to exciting prospects in the field of nutrition and health.

Human Resource Management

Equip yourself with the skills and capabilities to motivate employees to excel, and set yourself up for a diverse career in Human Resource Management (HRM).

People are an organisation's most valuable and often costly resource. This programme will teach you the underlying principles of managing people in organisations, from ensuring the right talent is in the right place at the right time, to dealing with poor performance and conflict.

Career opportunities

You'll graduate with the skill set to apply for HRM roles in a variety of organisations or enter a graduate recruitment scheme. You could specialise in areas such as employment relations, talent management, learning and development, or recruiting.

Human Services Law

(Minor subject only)

Focus on areas of the law such as family law, criminal justice, law and psychiatry, sentencing, and the Treaty of Waitangi.

I

Indigenous Studies

Examine how indigenous communities shape conversations about identity, sovereignty, environment, and social justice. This subject brings together perspectives from history, politics, anthropology, and the arts to help you understand the complex realities of colonisation, resilience, and renewal.

Career opportunities

You could go on to a career in education, social work, policy and governance, iwi, tribal or political advisement, foreign policy or within community organisations.

Infection and Immunity

Explore how microbes cause disease, how the immune system responds, and how modern research is transforming treatments from vaccines to cancer immunotherapy. Whether you're driven to improve public health, investigate immune disorders, or help develop new therapeutics, this major gives you the tools and insight to make a meaningful impact.

International Business

Explore strategies for doing business in a global environment. You'll learn how to deal with different cultures, languages, laws, institutions, companies and communities, opening up a world of opportunities.

Career opportunities

Career options include foreign economic relations, international trade and investment, international marketing and business strategy, international management consulting, and in government departments such as Foreign Affairs and Trade, tourism and hospitality agencies, multinational companies, and financial institutions, both in New Zealand and overseas.

Irish Studies

(Minor subject only)

Explore the culture, history, and creative traditions of Ireland while building strong analytical and communication skills.

J

Japanese

Ready to learn a language that's not only fascinating but also deeply relevant in today's world? Studying Japanese gives you more than just grammar and vocabulary – it opens a window into a culture rich with creativity, history and innovation. At Otago, you'll explore everything from award-winning manga and anime to the art of Zen, Japanese food, fashion, society and business.

Career opportunities

You could opt for a career in trade, commerce and tourism, or choose an academic path, such as teaching Japanese in schools or going on to MA and PhD degrees. Graduates have spent time in Japan under the Japanese government's JET Programme, working as assistant language teachers at Japanese schools or as co-ordinators for international relations at local government offices.

L

Land Planning and Development

Examine how land planning and the process of land subdivision and development impact our human and natural landscapes. Look at how land decisions have cultural, social, legal, economic and ecosystem implications, and learn how to assess the economic potential of land.

This degree differs from other New Zealand planning degrees in that it emphasises engineering design and land administration from both Pākehā and Māori perspectives, as well as covering essential aspects of New Zealand legislation that relate to land development.

Career opportunities

This degree provides an excellent foundation for a career in planning, land development and resource management, especially in relation to the subdivision and administration of land. You could go on to work in local government and private practice with surveyors, planners, land developers and urban designers. Students wishing to become recognised as fully qualified professional planners have the option to undertake the two-year Master of Planning (MPlan) at Otago, leading to membership of the New Zealand Planning Institute.

Language and Linguistics

(See Linguistics)

Latin

(Minor subject only – see Classics)

Experience the major works of Roman literature, drama, history and philosophy in the original language. Develop your Latin language skills and delve into the artefacts, ideas and deeds of ancient Rome.

Law

(Degree – see page 57)

Linguistics

(Includes English and Linguistics, and Language and Linguistics)

Explore how languages evolve, how meaning is formed, how sound and structure shape communication, and how language interacts with society and the mind.

Career opportunities

Career paths include teaching, interpreting/translation, editing and writing, computer programming and speech therapy. The Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) minor specifically equips you to teach English abroad and at home in language schools and other non-state institutions.

M

Management

Explore core management principles including leadership, effective communication, employment relations, human resource management, organisational dynamics, entrepreneurship, international management, as well as strategy and innovation. Our programme is tailored to cultivate the next generation of leaders ready to face real-world challenges.

Career opportunities

Our graduates can be found in a range of jobs in private business, not-for-profit organisations, government agencies, health care providers, applied science and technology companies, and arts and leisure management companies, while others start their own businesses.

Māori Health

Māori Health focuses on making a difference for Māori health outcomes. Learn how to provide culturally responsive health practice when working with Māori individuals, whānau, communities, organisations and our wider society.

Career opportunities

You could take up a role within the Māori health, public health, healthcare, disability and social services sectors.

Māori Studies

Engage with te reo Māori / the Māori language, tikanga Māori / customary practice and te ao Māori / the Māori world in real and relevant ways. Explore contemporary issues, including Māori health, education, environment and the interplay of culture and society.

Career opportunities

A degree in Māori Studies can lead to careers in policy and governance, education, public health, media, communications or heritage work, and business or management roles.

Marine Science

Studying Marine Science is a hands-on experience. As well as attending lectures and tutorials, you'll have practical labs and field trips at sea. Alongside our research and teaching facilities in Dunedin, we have a major research laboratory on the Otago Peninsula and field stations on Stewart Island and in Doubtful Sound. A fleet of research vessels, including the expedition vessel *RV Polaris II*, provides access to local marine habitats.

Career opportunities

Marine scientists are valued, not only in learning institutions, but also by governments and large corporations. Marine research can take you from the poles to the tropics, Antarctica to Fiji, and from regional councils to government agencies, such as the Department of Conservation, NIWA and the Ministry for Primary Industries. You might also work for a private consultancy firm, within the IT industry, for government science policy groups, within the educational system, in community engagement or in the media.

Marketing

You'll develop core skills in market research and analysis, marketing strategy, new product development, integrated marketing and the promotion of products, brands, and services. You'll do all this while considering ethical, social, cultural, and environmental perspectives and the ways in which consumer behaviour and business practice can contribute to positive change – business for good.

Career opportunities

A career in marketing could include sales management, public relations, brand management, designing new products, planning advertising and behaviour change campaigns, export and international marketing, or analysing market trends. Some of our graduates join training programmes with well-known companies. Others work for smaller businesses, not-for-profits, and sports and cultural organisations.

Mathematical Statistics

(Minor subject only)

The Mathematical Statistics minor has the same programme requirements as the Statistics minor at 100-level, but differs after 100-level.

Mathematics

When you study Mathematics, you'll build a toolkit for tackling real problems. You'll learn to analyse complex situations, break challenges into manageable parts, and find creative solutions. These skills transfer across careers in technology, finance, data science, research, engineering and more.

Career opportunities

Mathematics graduates follow diverse career paths. You could find work as a data analyst or data scientist, a software or algorithm developer, a teacher, educator or academic, a quantitative modeller, or a researcher in applied mathematics or a mathematics-adjacent field.

Medical Laboratory Science

(Degree – see page 51)

Medicine and Surgery

(Degree – see page 55)

Microbiology and Immunology

Microbes make up over half of all life on Earth – tiny, unseen, and endlessly fascinating. At Otago you'll learn how microbes influence human health, ecology, industry and global systems.

From how our immune system responds to infections, to how microbes help recycle nutrients or even produce food and medicines, this subject opens opportunities across biology, health and environment.

Career opportunities

You could go on to work as a microbiologist in healthcare or diagnostic labs, a research scientist in biotechnology or pharmaceuticals, an agricultural microbiologist, a quality assurance or food safety office, or as a science communicator or educator.

Molecular Basis of Health and Disease

Look beneath the surface of the human body and uncover the molecular clues that explain how and why diseases develop. You'll explore the inner workings of cells and how they communicate, grow, adapt,

or sometimes malfunction. You'll work in cutting-edge labs, run experiments, and dig into current research that shapes medicine today. With this major, you can help solve tomorrow's big health problems, from metabolic disorders to signalling errors.

Music

(Degree – see page 58)

Music

If you want to develop as a performer, composer, or producer we have courses to suit. From creating music on your laptop, to learning guitar, to writing new works, our flexible programme structure means you can design your study around your passions.

Career opportunities

Our graduates have pursued careers in musical performance, the recording industry, opera, teaching, media, theatre, and music theatre.

Music Production

(Minor subject only)

Digital technology is shaking up the traditional studio system of music production. On this programme, you'll be exposed to the huge range of opportunities that now exist in the music industry, equipping you with the skills and confidence to achieve your creative goals.



Neuroscience

Turn your curiosity about the brain into real discovery. You'll explore the organ that drives everything we do – from thought and emotion to memory, movement, and recovery after injury.

At Otago, Neuroscience connects biology, psychology, chemistry, and computer science into one fascinating story of how the brain works. Build hands-on experience in labs, develop sharp data and research skills, and tackle real questions about health, behaviour, and human performance.

Career opportunities

Majoring in Neuroscience prepares you to work as a laboratory technician, research assistant, research manager or policy analyst. It also provides a useful first degree

if you later want to specialise in medicine, pharmacy, physiotherapy, optometry, audiology or nursing. If you're planning on becoming a neuroscientist, you'll need to go on to postgraduate study.

Nutrition and Metabolism in Human Health

Delve into the science behind how our bodies use food. You'll explore the biochemistry of proteins, fats, and vitamins, the way energy balance affects health, and how nutrition shapes disease, growth, ageing, and metabolism. You'll also get to examine real issues facing Aotearoa, including diabetes, obesity, metabolic health in Māori and Pacific communities, and the impact of poor nutrition on wellbeing.

O

Oral Health

(Degree – see page 49)

P

Pacific and Global Health

Study how culture, history, environment and global systems shape wellbeing, with a strong focus on Pacific peoples and other communities facing health inequities.

Career opportunities

You could find a career in community work, as a health navigator, in international health organisations or in policy change. You might work for organisations like the Ministry of Health or Te Whatu Ora in managerial, adviser, analyst, or engagement co-ordinator roles.

Pacific Studies

Explore how Pacific peoples, including New Zealanders, live, adapt and thrive, and how you can play a part in that story.

You'll look at history, culture, migration, language, environment and identity through a Pacific lens, gaining a deep appreciation of the diversity and resilience of Pacific communities. The programme affirms New Zealand's place within the Pacific and its strong cultural, political and intellectual connections across the region.

Career opportunities

A major in Pacific Islands Studies can lead to a career in national and regional organisations, the diplomatic corps, social work, teaching, religion or non-government organisations.

Pastoral Studies

(Minor subject only)

Pastoral Studies helps you connect your Theology studies with culture, community life, personal experience and the ideas that shape care, communication, and meaning in everyday settings.

Pathology

(Minor subject only)

Pathology helps you understand what disease looks like inside the body and why it happens. You'll learn how cells respond to stress, injury, and infection, and how these changes shape health outcomes.

Performing Arts

(Degree – see page 59)

Pharmaceutical Science

(Degree – see page 47)

Pharmacology and Toxicology

Explore how medicines are discovered, how they work in the body and mind, and how they can be used safely and effectively. You'll learn how drugs move through the body, how they act on organs and cells, and how new treatments are developed.

Toxicology adds another vital layer – understanding how chemicals and medicines can harm, and methods of prevention.

Career opportunities

Graduates go on to careers in health, research and industry. You might find employment as a drug development researcher in pharmaceutical companies or biotech; a clinical pharmacologist or specialist in hospital or healthcare settings; a toxicologist working in environmental, regulatory or industrial contexts; or as a technical specialist or adviser for pharmaceutical and med-tech companies.

Pharmacy

(Degree – see page 52)

Philosophy

Philosophy provides a toolkit to critically engage with difficult and important questions. You'll develop your powers of argument, analysis, and critical reasoning, learn to express yourself more clearly, and gain the ability to address complex and difficult problems.

Career opportunities

You'll graduate with a unique mix of analytical and literary skills, making you attractive to employers in a wide range of industries, including computing, e-commerce, economics, journalism, marketing, politics, social services, and dispute resolution.

Philosophy, Politics and Economics

If you're driven to make sense of the world – and to shape it – Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) is for you. This major brings together the analytical rigour of philosophy, the societal insight of politics and the methodological strength of economics.

You'll question fundamental assumptions: why societies are organised in certain ways, how power works, what justice means, and what economic systems enable or undermine human flourishing. You'll explore classic texts alongside new ideas and present-day policy challenges.

Career opportunities

Career opportunities exist in a broad range of businesses, government departments and NGOs, both in New Zealand and in the wider world. Graduates of the programme include senior advisers in several ministries, diplomats, business consultants, journalists, lawyers, think-tank members, entrepreneurs and CEOs.

Physical Education, Activity and Health

Learn about the intricacies of human physiology, how it's enhanced by physical activity, and the role that the physical environment plays in physical activity and health.

This major has a focus on Māori physical education and health, emphasising the important roles of hauora, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and te ao Māori in supporting health and wellbeing.

Career opportunities

Specific roles could include a health coach, exercise programme adviser, sports coach, or a health and fitness professional in a gym setting.

Physics

Physics is a search for and an application of rules that can predict the evolution of the world around us. This includes planetary motion, quantum jumps in atoms, and the propagation of light.

Through central concepts such as energy, force, particles and waves, Physics attempts to answer fundamental question about nature, while at the same time providing solutions to technological problems.

Career opportunities

A Physics degree will give you multiple future options. You could work in high-tech areas such as electronics, laser technology, smart materials, healthcare, analytics, or telecommunications.

Physiology

Physiology is all about how living things work. Understanding what's normal is the key to recognising when things go wrong, and enabling the development of effective treatments.

Studying Physiology will help you understand real-life problems such as ageing muscles, diabetes, high-performance sport, neural disorders, and lung disease. You'll explore how single cells transport molecules, how brain cells talk to each other, and how the heart, lungs and kidneys keep things working.

Career opportunities

Physiologists pursue opportunities in research, health-tech or biotechnology, clinical support roles, sport science, high-performance coaching and public health.

Physiotherapy

(Degree – see page 53)

Plant Biotechnology

Plant biotechnology has revolutionised agriculture to address global challenges. Using techniques like genetic engineering and selective breeding, scientists manipulate the genetic makeup of plants to increase crop yields, improve their resistance to pests and diseases, and improve their nutritional content.

This dynamic field, encompassing plant physiology, biochemistry and molecular biology, plays a vital role in sustainable food production, environmental conservation, and the creation of resilient crops to meet the demands of a growing world population.

Career opportunities

Graduates will find opportunities in Crown Research Institutes, biotechnology and agricultural technology companies, research, environmental and sustainability advisory roles, and science communication.

Politics

If you've ever wondered why decisions get made, who decides and how change happens, studying Politics is your chance to step right in. At Otago you'll explore the heart of power, from local communities in Aotearoa to global systems and everything in between. You'll sharpen your thinking, question assumptions, and walk away with real analytical strength and a mindset ready for action.

Career opportunities

Graduates have gone on to work as policy analysts, diplomats, journalists, business leaders, lawyers, public servants, consultants and politicians. Others work in immigration and with refugees, for NGOs and the not-for-profit sector, education and the media. Many students progress into postgraduate study.

Popular Music

(Minor subject only)

Are you interested in the diverse popular music of the world and its cultural contexts? Through this minor, you'll learn how to critically evaluate the function of popular music in the world around you.

Psychology

Psychology is the science of behaviour, brain and cognition – the study of how humans and other animals interact with the world and each other. It's about what drives us, how we think, and why we act the way we do.

At Otago, you'll dive into the fascinating processes behind perception, emotion, memory, and decision-making. You'll see how psychology connects science to everyday life – from transport safety and mental health, to child development, workplace wellbeing and eyewitness testimony.

Career opportunities

Our graduates work in diverse fields such as mental health support and youth work, marketing and consumer behaviour, human resources and organisational management, research and data analysis, health coaching and promotion, the criminal justice sector,

teaching, social work, and nursing (with additional qualifications). Psychology graduates from Otago can also apply for entry into professional psychology training programmes, including the Clinical Psychology Programme which leads to registration as a Clinical Psychologist, and programmes leading to registration as a Psychology Assistant (subject to NZ Psychologist Board approval in 2026).

Public Health

Make a difference by studying the social, environmental and behavioural factors that shape people's health – from housing and nutrition to policy and health systems – and how you can make positive change to the health of populations.

Career opportunities

After graduating, you'll have the knowledge and skills to work in the wider health sector, including within government and non-government organisations in areas such as hauora Māori, health policy, and health promotion.

R

Radiation Therapy

(Degree – see page 50)

Religious Studies

The study of religions is more than just learning about beliefs - it's about exploring what it means to be human in a diverse, changing world.

At Otago you'll ask big questions: Why do people believe what they do? How do religions influence politics, art, law and identity? How do new movements and digital cultures reshape spirituality? Our programme uses tools from history, psychology, anthropology and sociology to dig into these questions.

Career opportunities

Religious Studies graduates are valued for their skills in analysis, communication and cultural awareness. You could find work in a variety of settings, including community engagement and social services, education, public policy, government roles, journalism, and business.

Reproduction, Genetics and Development

In this major, you'll examine the biology of reproduction, embryo formation and development, and the genetics underlying these events. You'll also have the opportunity to explore key anatomical and genetic techniques.



Science of Religion

(Minor subject only)

This minor helps you explore how scientific research explains religious belief, behaviour, and culture. You'll learn to ask strong questions, work with experimental and survey methods, and evaluate evidence with confidence.

Social Anthropology

(See Anthropology)

Social Work

(Degree – see page 60)

Sociology

Sociology opens your eyes to how society really works. You'll explore how identity, relationships, and everyday choices are shaped by bigger social forces. You'll unpack ideas about power, inequality, culture, and change, all while developing critical thinking skills that will stay with you far beyond your degree. From debates about gender and class to global issues like climate justice and digital surveillance, Sociology helps you understand not just what's happening in the world, but why.

Career opportunities

Critical and creative thinking skills, and an in-depth understanding of human behaviour make Sociology graduates sought after in the workplace. Graduates go on to work in government departments, public policy, community and non-profit organisations, public health, and research.

Software Engineering

(Degree – see page 65)

Spanish

At Otago we teach Spanish from the ground up, so if you're curious about the world and keen to make connections beyond New Zealand, studying Spanish is a brilliant way in.

Career opportunities

Spanish language and culture skills give graduates an edge in areas such as international relations, translation, tourism, education, media, marketing and business.

Sport and Exercise Nutrition

Delve into the theory of human nutrition and sport and exercise science, covering topics like human body systems and biochemistry. You'll also gain practical experience in hands-on labs, practical sessions, tutorials, and workshops.

This is the only programme in New Zealand offering a combined study of nutrition and physical education, meaning you'll graduate with a unique perspective and deeper understanding of how nutrition impacts human performance, recovery, and long-term health outcomes.

Career opportunities

With this degree you could pursue careers in sports nutrition consultancy, public health, research, product development, clinical practice and corporate wellness.

Sport Development and Management

Examine the people, institutions and policies that influence the structure, management and experience of sport. You'll focus on the quality of organisations and societal conditions that support sport participation, the psychological variables that help sporting development and performance, and the impact of sport on community objectives such as wellness, social integration and economic renewal.

Career opportunities

Careers in this sector include sport development officers, administrators and managers in national/regional sports organisations, community trusts, commercial sports entities, government ministries and local councils. The programme also provides pathways into teaching, coaching, youth work, sports marketing and sports journalism.

Sports Technology

(Minor subject only)

Sports technology is an integral part of modern sport. Encompassing the use of advanced analysis tools, hi-tech sportswear, and innovative training equipment and programmes, it offers opportunities for enhancing performance, preventing injury, and improving our understanding of the human body.

Statistics

Statisticians find information in data and apply this knowledge to real-life scenarios. Statistical techniques are used in just about every field, from evaluating the environmental effects of pollutants to helping researchers evaluate new drugs and medical procedures.

You'll learn how to design experiments and surveys, analyse data, and extract meaningful information. You'll gain expertise in statistical computing, quantitative reasoning and mathematical modelling – all skills that will make you highly employable.

Career opportunities

Career pathways include data analyst or statistician in government, business or research settings; biostatistician supporting public health, medical studies or clinical research; data scientist working with analytics, modelling and real-world datasets; market or consumer insights researcher; risk analyst or financial analyst supporting smart decisions in finance and insurance.

Surveying

(Degree – see page 64)

Surveying Measurement

This major is comprised of papers from the surveying methods and geospatial aspects of the Bachelor of Surveying degree. It is ideal for overseas students who wish to study Surveying but without the New Zealand land law, statutory planning or land administration aspects of the longer degree.

Career opportunities

Graduates find opportunities in the land development sector and on surveying projects in the private sector.

Sustainable Business

(Minor subject only)

With the minor in Sustainable Business, you'll develop a deep understanding of the social, ethical and environmental implications of managing a business and gain the skills to offer sustainable operations and strategy recommendations.

Sustainable Energy

Delve into the science behind renewable energy, energy efficiency and carbon reduction. You'll gain a deep understanding of a range of renewable and non-renewable energy resources and develop the key skills required for energy analysis in industrial and commercial settings.

You could dive into projects as diverse as energy-efficient housing, heat pump technology, generating energy from waste, identifying energy saving opportunities on campus, designing renewable energy installations, and assessing the potential for solar energy in university flats.

Career opportunities

Our graduates have gone on to work in a diverse range of positions: designing and implementing renewable energy technologies, identifying and implementing energy efficiency and carbon reduction measures at industrial sites and commercial buildings, and developing energy and sustainability plans for government departments.

Sustainable Finance

(Minor subject only)

The traditional investment approach focused solely on financial gain is shifting – investors are increasingly aware of the need to incorporate environmental, social and governance factors into their decision-making. By studying the minor in Sustainable Finance, you'll learn how to align financial goals with societal and environmental wellbeing.

T

Teaching

(Degree – see pages 61)

TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)

(Minor subject only)

A minor in TESOL opens doors to global opportunities, from living and working overseas to supporting learners in diverse communities. You'll gain practical teaching experience, strengthen communication across cultures, and develop insights into language, learning, and society.

Theatre Studies

Theatre Studies at Otago offers students the unique opportunity to engage in specialist study through collaborative theatre practice. You'll delve into a wide range of practices including acting, directing, devising, playwriting and screenwriting, dramaturgy, backstage skills, performance design, and theatre history/theory.

Career opportunities

A Theatre Studies degree can be a foundation for careers in a range of fields such as theatre, film, teaching, arts administration, scriptwriting, journalism, PR, event management, museum curation and more.

Theology

(Degree – see page 62)

Theology

(Minor subject)

Theology opens up rich fields of study – biblical studies, Christian thought and history, pastoral practice, and public ethics. Whether you're drawn to ministry, social service, education, or simply exploring your own faith, Theology at Otago offers depth and direction.

Tourism

Through hands-on and collaborative learning, you'll learn how to manage tourism at the business, destination or government level – for sustained success. You'll study planning, management, and marketing, and gain solid skills in business alongside knowledge of the societal and environmental implications of tourism.

Career opportunities

Tourism graduates find work in adventure tourism, customer relations, events and conference co-ordination, museums and art galleries, hotel management, regional and government tourism organisations, sales and marketing, and visitor services.

Tourism, Languages and Cultures

This subject provides you with a unique opportunity to gain cross-cultural perspectives while also acquiring a solid grounding in tourism management.

Career opportunities

Graduates are employed by national and regional tourism organisations such as Tourism New Zealand and Destination Queenstown, as well as accommodation, activity, transport and infrastructure operators.

W

Writing

(Minor subject only)

The ability to write clearly, accurately and concisely can open many doors – from boosting your university grades to landing your dream job. Good communication skills become even more essential as you move up the career ladder, with high-level roles in just about any profession requiring advanced writing and communication abilities.

Z

Zoology

Zoology is the study of animals in all their extraordinary diversity. From microscopic DNA adaptations to the complex behaviours that help animals find food, reproduce and survive – it's a subject that operates at every scale imaginable.

You'll explore how animals have evolved to sense and navigate their environments, how populations change over time, and how species interact with each other and the world around them.

Career opportunities

With a degree in Zoology you could work as a wildlife biologist or ecologist; an environmental consultant analysing populations, ecosystems and conservation strategies; a laboratory scientist in genetics, physiology or biotechnology; or as a marine or freshwater scientist studying aquatic animals and ecosystems.

Applying to Otago



Te tono ki Ōtākou

You'll need to meet specific requirements in order to study at Otago. Find out about admission requirements, tuition fees and scholarships.

Application checklist

1. Are you eligible for admission?

To enrol, you'll need to be at least 16 years old by the start of classes, meet English language requirements, and hold one of the following university entrance (UE) qualifications.

Studied in New Zealand?

- NCEA Level 3
- Cambridge International examinations
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Other New Zealand secondary school qualifications (e.g. New Zealand Certificate of Steiner Education (Level 3) or Christian Education New Zealand (CENZ) Level 3 Certificate)
- Bursary or Scholarship Examination or Unit Standards

Studied in Australia or overseas?

- Australian Secondary School Ranking
- General Certificate of Education (GCE) Advanced Level
- International Baccalaureate (IB) taken overseas
- Other overseas secondary school qualifications

Previous tertiary study?

- Completion of a degree at another tertiary institution
- Successful university-level study at another tertiary institution

Other

- Admission from completion of a NZ University Foundation programme
- Discretionary Entrance (not available for international students)
- Special Admission (not available for international students)

Some programmes may have higher standards or additional entrance requirements which must also be met for an offer of enrolment to be made.

otago.ac.nz/entrance

2. What do you want to study?

Otago offers a wide range of study options. Use the study guide contained in this book to help you figure out the best path for you.

3. What are the programme entry requirements?

General bachelors' degrees require that students meet the requirements for university entrance. Specialised bachelors' degrees (e.g. Bachelor of Oral Health, Bachelor of Dental Technology, Bachelor of Radiation Therapy, and any of our Teaching degrees) have their own specific entry requirements, restricted choice of papers and admission procedures.

otago.ac.nz/entrance

4. What are the application dates?

Find and take note of the due date that applies to the programme you're interested in – some programmes will not accept late applications.

2026 application dates

31 July	Applications encouraged for the Bachelor of Teaching (for first round of interviews)
13 August	Bachelor of Radiation Therapy, Bachelor of Oral Health, and Bachelor of Dental Technology applications
15 August	Most entrance scholarship applications
1 September	Performance Music auditions and Bachelor of Performing Arts (late applications may be considered)
30 September	Residential college applications
30 November	Final applications for Bachelor of Teaching
10 December	Summer School, first semester and full-year papers/programmes for 2027

5. Create your eVision account

The University uses an online system called eVision to handle applications and enrolment.

6. Complete and submit your application

eVision will guide you through the application process. Once submitted, your application will be processed by University staff and/or the department/division responsible for your programme. The University will inform you of the outcome and – if appropriate – make you an offer via eVision.

7. Select your papers

eVision guides you through the process of selecting papers. Your course will be reviewed and you will be informed through eVision whether your paper selection has been approved or if any changes are required.

8. Complete the declaration

To finalise your enrolment, you must complete the online declaration via eVision.

9. Pay your fees

You'll find all the information you need to organise payment in the Finance section of your eVision portal.

Other ways to enrol

If you are or have been enrolled at another university and wish to transfer to Otago, you'll enrol in the same way as a first-year domestic student. You must also provide a copy of your official academic transcript (academic record), including any results from the current year. You may apply to have work completed at another university credited to your degree programme at Otago. You will be able to apply for credit via your eVision portal once you have been offered a place at Otago.

Australian students

Australian students living and studying in New Zealand are classified as domestic students rather than international students. They therefore pay the same fees as New Zealanders but are not necessarily entitled to government student loans, allowances or healthcare.

International students

We warmly welcome all international student applications. You can apply for most Otago degree programmes, although some programmes have limited places.

Throughout your studies, you'll be supported by a dedicated team of on-campus International Student Advisers, in addition to an extensive range of other support services on offer at Otago.

International students currently studying in a New Zealand secondary school should apply for study, scholarships and accommodation following the same key deadlines as domestic students.

International students applying from overseas (and not studying in a New Zealand secondary school) should submit their applications by 15 November for study commencing in semester 1 (February) the following year, or by 30 April for study commencing in semester 2 (July).

Application links can be found on the programme information pages on the University's website. If you need assistance at any stage, please contact our International Student Recruitment team.

international-connect@otago.ac.nz

Under New Zealand Government law, the University of Otago is required to ensure that all international students hold a visa valid for study and a compliant insurance policy while they are studying in New Zealand.

otago.ac.nz/international

Note: If you are a New Zealand citizen or resident visa holder of New Zealand (living and studying in New Zealand), or an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia (living and studying in New Zealand), you are classified as a domestic student.



Preparation programmes



Pathway diplomas

Just missed out on university entrance? Our Pathway diplomas help you transition into university study through a focused and highly supported environment.

- Successful completion leads directly into the second year of a bachelor's degree.
- Starts in February.
- Aligns with University of Otago semesters (2 x 12-week teaching semesters + exam period).
- NZQF Level 5 qualification.
- You are eligible for admission if you have successfully completed the University of Otago Foundation Studies Certificate.
- Choose from a Diploma in Arts, Diploma in Commerce, or Diploma in Science.

otago.ac.nz/uolcfy/diplomas



Foundation Studies Certificate

Gain the confidence, academic skills and knowledge to succeed in your undergraduate studies with our Foundation Studies Certificate.

- Two 13-week semesters.
- Three intakes – February, June and October.
- NZQF Level 4 qualification.
- Successful completion leads into the first year of a bachelor's degree.
- All students take courses in Academic English, then choose a main area of study.
- Choose from: Arts, Sciences, Health Sciences, Commerce.

otago.ac.nz/uolcfy/pathway



Bridging Programme

If you need to build your skills before you study a Foundation Studies Certificate or Diploma, our Bridging Programme is for you.

- Six-week course.
- Next intakes – January 2027 and April 2027.
- Successful completion, with a GPA of 6.5, is required for entry to the Foundation Studies Certificate.
- Note that these are six-week programmes that begin prior to the February and June Foundation Studies Certificate intakes.

otago.ac.nz/uolcfy/pathway/bridging

Run by Otago Pathway | Te Huarahi, these courses help both domestic and international students prepare for undergraduate study at Otago.

You'll learn in lecture theatres and labs on campus, helping you settle in and feel at home in the University environment. Through a combination of independent study and working in small groups, you'll build confidence while developing useful skills such as communication, time management and problem-solving. You'll also have access to one-on-one support from teaching staff, who are available to help with new learning and study skills.

As a Pathway student, you'll receive a University of Otago ID card, giving you access to libraries, 24-hour computer suites, Student Health, Unipol, OUSA Clubs and Societies, plus discounts on shopping, entertainment and travel.

otago.ac.nz/uolcfy/pathway

Key



Can be credited towards a bachelor's degree



Cannot be credited towards a bachelor's degree

Improve your English language skills

The University of Otago English Language Centre offers high-quality English language courses designed especially for international students. Options include General English (a great option if you're planning to move into Otago Pathway programmes without sitting IELTS), IELTS preparation, English for Academic Purposes, New Zealand Studies, and English for Otago. These courses can help you meet the English language requirements for both undergraduate and postgraduate study at the University of Otago.

Students from more than 20 countries study at the Language Centre, creating a friendly and diverse learning environment. Classes are small – with no more than 18 students – so you'll receive plenty of individual support to help you strengthen specific language skills. You'll also have opportunities to take part in social and recreational activities, making it easy to meet new people and practise your English outside the classroom.

As a Language Centre student, you'll have access to a wide range of University facilities, including libraries, 24-hour computer suites, Student Health, Unipol Recreation, and OUSA Clubs and Societies. You'll also be able to use the Centre's independent learning space, which has lots of resources for learning English.

Friendly student advisers are available to support you with any concerns, including health and wellbeing, and Otago's Homestay Office can help match you with a welcoming host family in safe, comfortable accommodation.

otago.ac.nz/uolcfy



Tuition fees

Fees

Details of University of Otago domestic fees for 2027 will be available in November/December 2026. The 2026 tuition fee and student services fee bands on this page give students an idea of what they might expect to pay but these figures may change for 2027.

Note: These figures are the fees payable for an average one-year course of study (1.0 EFTS) in the specified subject categories. The fee bands are GST inclusive and apply to New Zealand citizens and permanent residents. (Please note: Permanent residents must be resident in New Zealand for the duration of their course to be eligible to pay the domestic fee rate.) Your annual fee will depend on what papers you take and the fee band to which they belong.

Tuition fees information for international students is available online:

otago.ac.nz/tuition-fees

Loans and allowances

StudyLink processes student loans and allowances on behalf of the Ministry of Social Development. Contact StudyLink for information and application material.

studylink.govt.nz

Fees-free study

Most domestic students who are new to tertiary education in 2027 will be eligible for one year of fees-free study in their final year at Otago. If you're eligible for the final year fees-free scheme, you will need to arrange payment to the University of Otago and apply for your entitlement through IRD on completion of your studies.

otago.ac.nz/fees-free

2026 undergraduate domestic tuition fee bands for subject categories

Subjects	\$ (GST incl)
Arts, Languages, Theology, Mathematics, Education	7,354
Commerce, Teaching	7,022
Law	8,204
Computer Science, Geography, Information Science, Music, Science	8,788
Health Sciences (1.0 EFTS), Pharmacy, Surveying	10,159
Physical Education	8,788-10,159
Physiotherapy – Years 2 to 3 inclusive	8,788
Physiotherapy – Year 4	10,257
Medicine, Dentistry – Year 2 onwards	19,538

Student services fee (based on 2026)

Service	\$ (GST incl)
Advocacy and legal	81.97
Careers information, advice and guidance	77.87
Student Health	506.38
Media	30.01
Financial support and assistance	2.36
Sports and recreation facilities	494.91
TOTAL	1,193.00

Some services are provided by the University, and others are purchased from contracted third parties which include OUSA.



Scholarships

Fund your study with a scholarship, so you can focus on what matters.

The University of Otago offers entrance and undergraduate scholarships that recognise academic excellence, leadership qualities, ethnicity, financial hardship, disability, and excellence in sporting or cultural pursuits. Applications for 2027 open 1 July 2026 and close 15 August 2026.

There is also a range of donor- and trust-funded entrance scholarships, with applications opening at various times throughout the year. See our website for more information:

otago.ac.nz/entrance-scholarships

Scholarship	NZ\$ (one- to three-year tenure)	Eligibility
Academic Excellence	Typically around \$45,000 (over three years)	Students who have outstanding previous academic performance. Leadership qualities and community involvement also considered.
150th	Standard value \$16,000* (over two years)	Academically strong students with financial or life circumstances that make attending university difficult.
Māori	Standard value \$16,000* (over two years)	Māori students with academic ability and involvement in their communities.
Pacific Peoples'	Standard value \$16,000* (over two years)	Indigenous Pacific students with academic ability and involvement in their communities.
Leaders of Tomorrow	Standard value \$7,000* (one year)	Students with excellent academic results and outstanding leadership.
Ti Kōuka Sustainability Leaders	Standard value \$7,000* (one year)	Students with demonstrated involvement with sustainability activities.
Performance	Standard value \$7,000* (one year)	Students with excellent academic results who have performed in sport or cultural activities at an elite level.
Donna-Rose McKay	Standard value \$16,000* (over two years)	Students who have a disability, good academic ability, and financial or life circumstances that make attending university difficult.
Dux	\$6,000 (or with reduced value if held in conjunction with another Otago scholarship) (one year)	Recipients are Duxes of their secondary school and have an automatic entitlement to this scholarship.
New Frontiers (closes 4 March 2027)	up to \$4,000 (one year)	Recipients do not have another University of Otago entrance scholarship and have gained overall Excellence endorsement at NCEA Level Two and/or Three (or IB or CIE equivalent). Recipients must not be studying HSFY or Engineering Intermediate.

* Exceptional applicants may be offered this scholarship at a higher value and longer tenure.

Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to ensure the above information is current and correct, applicants are advised to check our website for the most up-to-date scholarship regulations, eligibility criteria, scholarship value and tenure, and closing dates. The University reserves the right to change the nature and value of its entrance scholarships up to the closing date for those scholarships.

Important dates

2026

1 May

Bachelor of Teaching applications open

3–4 May

Otago Open Days on Dunedin campus
(main event day: Monday 4 May)

1 July

Applications open for most entrance scholarships

31 July

Applications encouraged for the
Bachelor of Teaching (for first-round interviews)

1 August

Applications open for residential colleges

13 August

Applications close for
Bachelor of Radiation Therapy,
Bachelor of Oral Health, and
Bachelor of Dental Technology

15 August

Applications close for most entrance scholarships

1 September

Applications close for
Performance Music auditions
(late applications may be accepted)

30 September

Applications close for residential colleges

15 November

Applications close for International students

30 November

Final application deadline for the
Bachelor of Teaching

10 December

Applications close for the following courses:
BA, BACom, BASc, BBiomedSc, BCom, BComSc, BE(Hons), BEntr,
MusB, BPharmSc, BSc, BSW (first year), BTheol, LLB (first year),
HSFY, BSurv (first year), BPA, BHealSc

2027

11 January

Summer School begins

22 January

Recommended date for submission of papers for course
approval by students taking semester 1 and full-year papers

20 February

Summer School examinations begin

22 February

Orientation week begins

25 February

Summer School examinations end

1 March

Semester 1 begins

26 March

Mid-semester break begins

12 April

Semester 1 resumes

9 June

Semester 1 examinations begin

23 June

Semester 1 examinations end

2 July

Recommended date for submission of papers for course
approval by students taking only semester 2 papers or courses

12 July

Semester 2 begins

27 August

Mid-semester break begins

13 September

Semester 2 resumes

20 October

End-of-year examinations begin

13 November

End-of-year examinations end

Contact us

Otago's Schools' Liaison Officers may be your first contact with us. They provide information and advice about courses and life at Otago. The team visits secondary schools in New Zealand during the first and second terms to let senior students know about the opportunities for living and learning at Otago. They return in the third and fourth terms to offer course advice, and help students choose their papers. Look out for them at your school and careers events, or contact them at their offices.

Dunedin

Sandra Spence and Greg Heller visit schools south of Christchurch.

03 479 8247

liaison@otago.ac.nz

Auckland

Alysha Bentley, Neomai Maka (Pacific Liaison Officer), Mere Mansell (Māori Liaison Officer) and Amber Russell visit Central and Upper North Island schools. Rhonda Brodie visits Westland. Mere Mansell (*Ngāti Porou*) advises and supports taura Māori and their whānau. Neomai Maka advises and supports Pacific Island students and their families.

09 373 9704

auckland.liaison@otago.ac.nz

Wellington

Cheryl Caldwell and Kathy Wiltshire visit schools in the lower North Island, upper South Island, North Canterbury and Christchurch.

04 460 9805

wellington.liaison@otago.ac.nz

Kaitakawaeka Māori

Tama Walker (*Ngāti Porou*) is based in Te Huka Mātauraka / Māori Centre on campus in Dunedin. He can provide information on scholarships and advise taura Māori and their whānau on courses of study.

03 479 8505

tama.walker@otago.ac.nz

Pacific Outreach Programmes and Community Liaison

Our Pacific Outreach Programmes and Community Liaison Officer is based at the Pacific Islands Centre on the Dunedin campus. They work with schools and Pacific communities in Otago and Southland and attend events nationwide.

Pacific Students' Transition Officers

Scotty Opeteia provides support and guidance to all new and first-year Pacific Island students.

03 479 8278

pacific@otago.ac.nz

AskOtago / Lia Ōtākou

AskOtago is your one-stop shop for all questions about studying at Otago. Find answers with our searchable knowledgebase, or use our online form to request a service. You can also chat to us online, phone us, or visit our hub in the Information Services Building, or at one of our other hubs around campus.

ask.otago.ac.nz

Facebook: [otagouniversity](https://www.facebook.com/otagouniversity)

X: [@Otago](https://twitter.com/Otago)

YouTube: [/OtagoUniversity](https://www.youtube.com/OtagoUniversity)

TikTok: [@universityofotago](https://www.tiktok.com/@universityofotago)

Instagram: [@universityofotago](https://www.instagram.com/universityofotago)

This Prospectus is intended as a general guide for students and includes an overview of the courses available at the University of Otago and how degrees are structured. Further details on all courses can be found online and in the *Guide to Enrolment*, which is available from August 2026.

While all information in this Prospectus is, as far as possible, up to date and accurate at the time of publication, the University reserves the right to add, amend or withdraw courses and facilities, to restrict student numbers and to make any other alterations as may be necessary. The regulations of the University of Otago are published annually in the *University Calendar*.

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