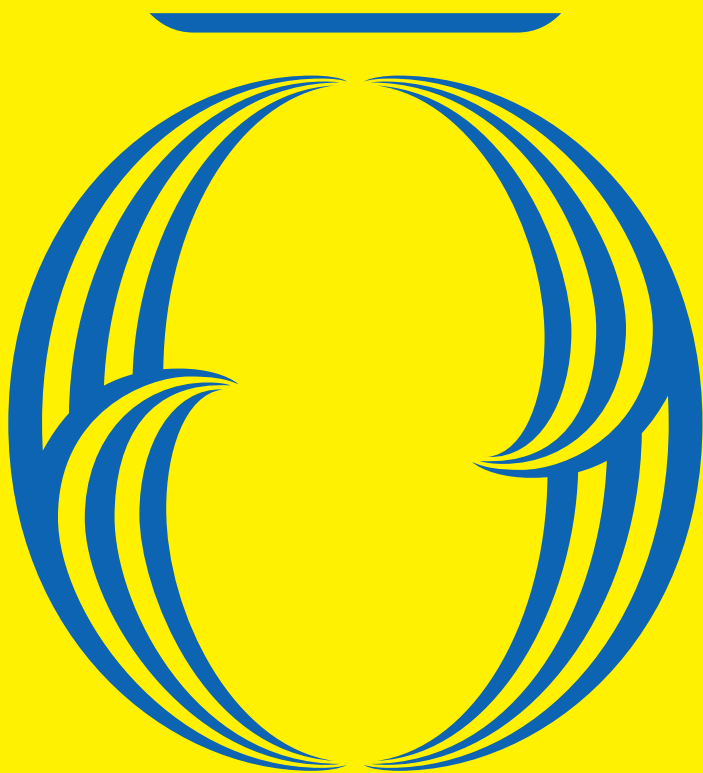


Summer School Prospectus



Te Kura Raumati



University
of Otago
ŌTĀKOU WHAKAIHU WAKA

2026–2027



Pre-Christmas papers

Akoranga whiore tau

Pre-Christmas Summer School (PXSS) runs from 9 November to 11 December 2026 with exams on 12 December. All papers have full academic credit – most are the same point value as semester papers.

One 18-point PXSS paper constitutes full-time study and therefore only one paper can be taken in this period.

BTNY 303 Topics in Field Botany OC

A hands-on, field-oriented course in plant identification and collection, in the context of plant population and community ecology.

CHTH 217 Special Topic: Theology and Science DL

CHTH 317 Special Topic: Theology and Science (Advanced) DL

Explore the history of the relationship between these two spheres of human enquiry and investigate the current prospects for fruitful interaction between theology and science.

CLAS 346 Power and Politics in Roman and Modern Times OC

Examine and compare concepts of power, legitimacy, and governance in Republican Roman and modern political systems.

RELS 203 Ancient Religion: Egypt to Mesopotamia OC/DL

RELS 303 Ancient Religion: Egypt to Mesopotamia (Advanced) OC/DL

Explore the religious ideas and practices of three civilisations of the ancient world: their gods and goddesses, their temples and priests, their attempts to communicate with the divine and to exercise power via magic, as well as their foundational myths and their expectations concerning the afterlife.

How to enrol

Current students

If you are already enrolled for the current year, you can request a Change of Course to add a Pre-Christmas Summer School paper. You can do this via your eVision portal, under “Programmes and papers”.

Returning students and new students

Once enrolment opens for the next academic year (usually the first weekend in October) you will no longer be able to enrol via eVision for the current academic year. To enrol in a Pre-Christmas Summer School paper after this time, contact AskOtago for assistance.

OC Taught on campus

DL Taught by Distance Learning

Make use of your summer

Runs from 11 January to 20 February, with exams from 21 to 25 February 2027.

Study from anywhere via distance learning or enjoy smaller classes and a quieter campus.

**Lighten your
semester workload.
Complete a Summer
School paper in just
six weeks.**

**30+ papers to
choose from.**

**Papers worth 18
points count as
full-time study for
StudyLink.**



Summer School papers

Akoranga kura raumati

ACFI 369 Special Topic: Real Estate Markets and Investments OC **ACFI 469 Special Topic: Real Estate Markets and Investments (Advanced) OC**

Introduction to real estate markets and investment analysis. Topics include basic financial modelling, valuation, real estate-based instruments, regulatory frameworks, and portfolio risk.

AIML 402 Advanced Artificial Intelligence OC

Modern AI representation systems and problem-solving techniques with an emphasis on machine learning.

BIOA 201 Biocultural Human Skeletal Biology OC

An introduction to human bioarchaeology, particularly evolutionary and comparative anatomy of the human body, what makes it unique among other primates, and why it varies among populations. Includes aspects of forensic anthropology.

CHEM 150 Concepts in Chemistry DL

Introduction to the core ideas and methods of chemistry, recommended for students with limited chemistry backgrounds. Topics include stoichiometry, equilibria, thermochemistry, redox, acid-base chemistry and main group and organic chemistry.

COMP 122 Foundations of Computer Science OC

Introduction to computer programming suitable for beginners with some prior experience. Builds on and extends basic programming and object-oriented concepts.

COSC 360 Computer Game Design DL

An introduction to the interdisciplinary field of computer game design, with an emphasis on technical skills. Topics include game critique, game design, programming, visual design and interactive storytelling.

COSC 385 Research Project OC

An independent research project with supervision from academic staff. Particularly beneficial to students considering postgraduate study in Computer Science.

FINC 204 Personal Finance OC

Principles and techniques for handling personal financial decisions. Topics include savings and investment considerations, personal risk management, use and cost of credit, financing alternatives, retirement, estate and tax planning.

FORB 201 Forensic Biology OC

An introduction to forensic biology. Trace and contact evidence, DNA, body fluids, traumatology, forensic entomology, toxicology and fibre analysis.

OC Taught on campus

DL Taught by Distance Learning

HUMS 301 Internship Practicum DL **HUMS 401 Internship Practicum DL**

Relevant work experience undertaken in an approved workplace, enabling the application of skills acquired in an academic environment.

HUNT 141 Understanding Human Nutrition DL

Basic understanding of key nutritional concepts and the importance of evidence-based nutrition for individual and population health.

LAWS 432 Animals and the Law OC

Theories regarding the legal status of animals and the regulation of animal welfare in New Zealand.

LAWS 498 Research and Writing OC

A programme of research and writing undertaken in conjunction with other 300- and 400-level LAWS papers, to be completed in compliance with conditions prescribed by the Dean of Law.

MAOR 110 Introduction to Conversational Māori OC

An introduction to Māori language with emphasis on pronunciation, greetings and forms of language in particular cultural contexts.

MART 310 Current Issues in International Branding DL

The strategies that brands use to position themselves in relation to international markets in the context of global business. Considers the socio-political contexts of markets and the cultural influences that affect strategic branding decisions.

MATH 120 Mathematics for Scientists DL

The development of understanding, formulation and application of a variety of approaches to quantitative problem solving in scientific disciplines.

MATS 204 Treasure or Trash: Sustainability of Materials DL

Broad and complex challenges associated with sustainability of materials. Aspects of product lifecycle related to material selection and use (processing, production, design, end-of-life).

MUSI 260 Special Topic: Taylor Swift: Popular Music, Fandom, Culture OC

Through cultural analysis of Taylor Swift as a performer, songwriter and icon, students explore issues of stardom, authorship, identity, and fandom, while considering critical perspectives on the commercial music industry.



PHSI 191 Biological Physics OC

Foundations of physics for the health sciences including mechanics, properties of fluids and solids, thermodynamics, optics, electrostatics and DC circuits, and radiation and health.

POLS 303 New Zealand's Political Economy OC

Historical overview of New Zealand politics, inequalities, and political parties.

PSYC 206 Psychology of Religion OC/DL

An introduction to the psychology of religion, with emphasis on what research in contemporary cognitive and evolutionary psychology says about human religious belief and behaviour.

RELS 241 Religion, Conflict and Conspiracy Theory OC/DL

RELS 341 Religion, Conflict and Conspiracy Theory (Advanced) OC/DL

Examine today's major conspiracy theories, and the role of societal conflict and religion in conspiracist belief.

STAT 110 Statistical Methods OC

Descriptive statistics, probability distributions, estimation, hypothesis testing, regression, analysis of count data, analysis of variance and experimental design. Sampling and design principles of techniques to build on in the implementation of research studies.

TOUR 101 Introduction to Tourism DL

An introduction to the global principles that structure tourism, the nature and operation of the tourist industry and the impact, development and management issues that arise from tourism.

TOUR 102 Global Tourism DL

The major issues in world tourism as it is differentiated on a global regional basis; integrated illustrative case studies.

TOUR 310 Leisure: Lives and Societies DL

Examines conceptual and historical perspectives of leisure; the role and scale of contemporary leisure, and the leisure industry. Considers determinants of the demand for and access to leisure, leisure, hedonism, deviance, freedom, and morality.

Papers are subject to change.
See the website for an up-to-date list,
plus timetable information:

otago.ac.nz/summerschool

OC Taught on campus

DL Taught by Distance Learning

About Summer School

He kōrero mō te Kura Raumati

All Summer School papers have full academic credit and most are of the same point value as semester papers. One 18-point paper counts as full-time study for StudyLink purposes. Papers are taught across six weeks instead of the usual thirteen weeks of a semester. Please note that LAWS papers are worth 15 points, so students wanting to study full-time must take two papers.

Is it difficult?

University study is always challenging, but many like the intense focus of Summer School. You'll immerse yourself in the subject and find that smaller classes and the quieter campus help you focus.

Workload

The maximum workload permitted by the University in Summer School is 36 points. For most Summer School papers, one point implies 10 hours of work. Taking one 18-point paper involves 180 hours of work (or 30 hours a week for six weeks, including classes and private study time).

If your academic record is average or lower, you should be cautious about enrolling in two papers in Summer School. If you are in doubt, seek advice. Some students find that they overcommit themselves by taking two papers. Students on Conditional Enrolment may be permitted to take only one paper.

StudyLink

If you are not enrolled for subsequent study in 2027, StudyLink payments will cover the Summer School tuition period only – StudyLink payments do not cover the Summer School exam period.

Summer School students may be approved to take papers for Final Examination Only. Any such additional papers are not taken into account in consideration of a student's status as a full-time or part-time student, or eligibility for government student loans or allowances.

Timetable

If you intend to take two papers in Summer School, please check that there are no lecture timetable clashes for your chosen pair of papers. For some papers, more tutorial streams may be added.

Interest Only

Interest Only enrolment is not normally available to students taking credit courses in the same enrolment period (i.e. Interest Only students must be taking only Interest Only papers). Students taking papers for credit may not take additional papers for Interest Only or change their enrolment for any papers from being for credit to Interest Only part-way through a teaching period. Interest Only enrolment is not available to international students.

Accommodation

Accommodation is available at Arana College.

**[otago.ac.nz/summerschool/study/
accommodation](https://otago.ac.nz/summerschool/study/accommodation)**

Opening day

Monday 11 January is a busy day for Summer School students as many papers have their first class. Libraries and food outlets are open, although for shorter periods during the first two weeks of Summer School.

Summer School welcome

Wednesday 13 January, 12–1pm, central campus. Join OUSA and Summer School for entertainment and free food.

Student facilities

The full range of student facilities are open during Summer School, including the Link, Unipol, Student Health, the Māori Centre and the Pacific Islands Centre.

OUSA Summer School lunches

Wednesdays, 12–1pm, central campus. Free BBQs, lawn games and entertainment. Find details on the OUSA website or Facebook page.

ousa.org.nz

Clubs and Societies

Clubs and Societies offers a range of short recreation courses during Summer School.

ousa.org.nz/recreation

Student support

All of the usual student support services are available over the Summer School period.

otago.ac.nz/student-services

Summer School dates

2026

31 October

Course enrolment (including paper selection) opens for Summer School 2027.

15 December

Recommended date for submitting Summer School paper selection for course approval.

2027

11 January

Summer School classes begin.
Due date for completing Summer School course enrolment declaration.

13 January

Summer School welcome, central campus.

14 January

Last day to add Summer School papers.

20 January

Last day to delete Summer School papers with refund of fees.

Mid to late January

Examination timetable released.

8 February

Waitangi Day observed.

14 February

Last day to withdraw from Summer School papers.

20 February

Last day of classes.

21 February

Examinations begin.

25 February

Examinations end.

Early March

Results available through eVision.

Contact us

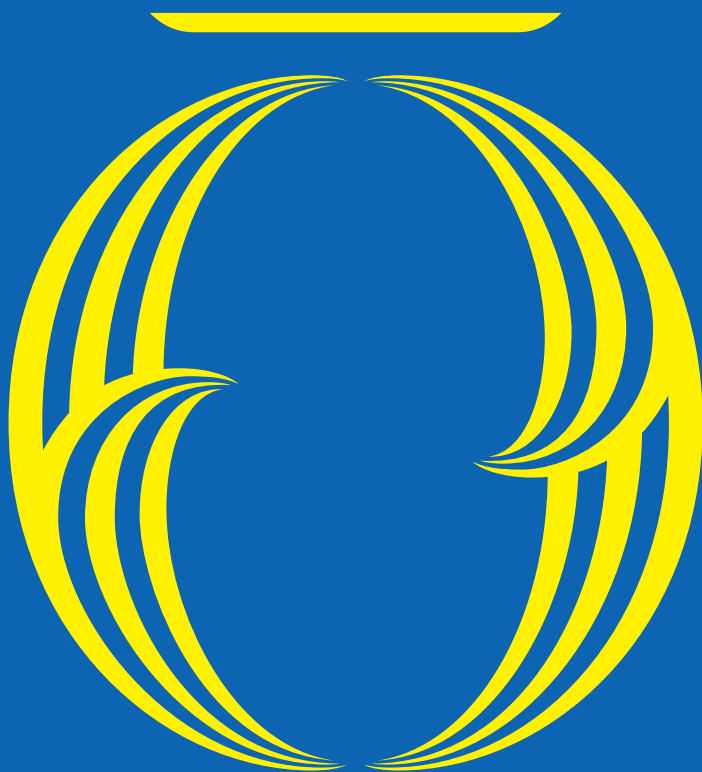
Whakapā mai

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

ask.otago.ac.nz

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