



University
of Otago

ŌTĀKOU WHAKAIHU WAKA

NEW ZEALAND'S FIRST UNIVERSITY



Study Abroad & Exchange at New Zealand's first university

2026-2027

Kia ora! Welcome to the University of Otago, New Zealand

A once in a lifetime experience.

Immerse yourself in the New Zealand culture here in Oceania's only true student city. Discover our unique Kiwi hospitality and an energy and atmosphere you won't find anywhere else.

Embark on a culturally enriching adventure guaranteed to expand your worldview and broaden your horizons.

New Zealand's iconic natural environment and picturesque landscapes await you.

The University of Otago is an approved signatory to the Education (Pastoral Care of Tertiary and International Learners) Code of Practice 2021.





New Zealand at a glance

Population: 5 million

Official languages: English, Te Reo Māori,
NZ Sign Language

4th safest country in the world¹

4th least corrupt in the world²



4th most gender-equal country in the world³

12th happiest country in the world⁴

27th on the Global Sustainable Competitiveness Index⁵

World-class education: #1 English-speaking country in preparing students for the future⁶



An aerial photograph of Dunedin, New Zealand, showing the city built on a hillside overlooking a large harbor. The water is a deep blue-green, and the city is densely packed with buildings. In the background, the ocean stretches to the horizon under a bright blue sky with scattered clouds.

Our location – Dunedin city Otago's main campus

Population 130,000

Welcome to Ōtepoti Dunedin! Ōtepoti is the Māori name used for the city and refers to the upper harbour area where Dunedin city was developed.

A walkable city

Dunedin is located on the East Coast of New Zealand's South Island, and unlike larger cities, you don't need a car to get around. It's a 10-minute walk from the University into the centre of town, and Dunedin has an extensive inner and outer-city bus network that makes it easy to explore. Most of our cafés, music venues, boutique stores, museums and galleries are just a short walk from campus.

Wildlife capital of New Zealand

Dunedin is home to an amazing variety of unique wildlife, such as the Yellow-Eyed Penguin, New Zealand Sea Lion and the Royal Albatross. The coastal terrain, secluded beaches and bush clad hills of the Otago Peninsula are the perfect backdrop for students to connect with nature.





Gateway to New Zealand's best

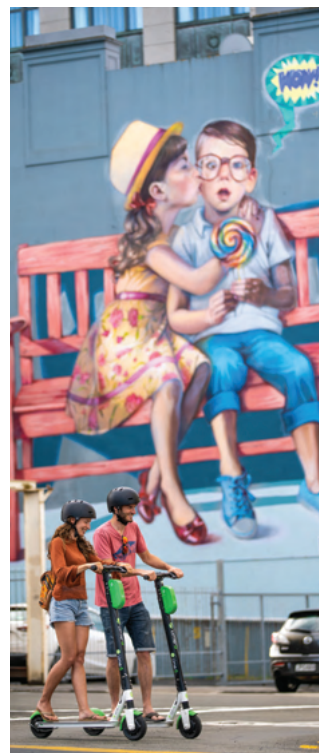
No other university campus in New Zealand has the same range, quality and accessibility of outdoor activities. From surfing and kayaking to mountain biking and snowboarding, students love to make the most of their free time and weekends here at Otago.

Getting around the South Island

Dunedin's proximity to some of New Zealand's most iconic natural scenery makes travelling easy. Within a 3.5-hour drive, find yourself in Queenstown – the adventure capital of the world and the perfect setting for skydiving, skiing, bungee jumping and white-water rafting. Visit Fiordland, one of the most dramatic and beautiful parts of New Zealand, and experience the "Great Walks" of the Routeburn, Milford and Kepler tracks – just a 4.5 hour drive away.

Small city, big personality

We might be a small city, but we don't sacrifice on fun. From world-famous performers and international sports events at New Zealand's largest stadium, to a burgeoning local culinary, cultural and arts scene – there is something for everyone, no matter your interests. Discover more of what Dunedin has to offer at dunedinnz.com



Dunedin city

Adventure on your doorstep





Flagstaff walking track



St Clair beach



Otago Peninsula

New Zealand's
only true student city





The Octagon



Forsyth Barr Stadium



Dunedin International Airport

Gateway to New Zealand's best



Roy's Peak



Blue Pools



Lake Wanaka



Moke Lake

Explore the stunning South Island





Treble Cone Ski Field



Lake Tekapo



Queenstown

Why Otago?

New Zealand's first university





1%

Top 1% of Higher Education Institutions ranked 2nd in New Zealand and 214th globally, 5+ Stars rating* (QS World Rankings 2025, QS Stars Rating 2025).

**based on the estimated number of higher education institutions, QS, 2025*

#1

In New Zealand for Student Academic Performance (TEC Educational Performance Indicators 2024).

5th

Most beautiful campus in the world (THE Student Voice ranking.)

78th

In the world (QS Sustainability Rankings 2025).

86%

Of our students move to Dunedin from across New Zealand, and the world (from over 90 countries) to study at the University of Otago.

170+

Student clubs and societies.

200+

Undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Otago Rankings

Ranked 214th in the world

Top 50 universities in the world for:

Sports-Related subjects
#11 best in the world

Anatomy and Physiology
#35 best in the world

MBA online
#37 best in the world

Dentistry
#45 best in the world

Tourism
#44 best in the world

Top 51-100 universities in the world for:

Archaeology

Hospitality & Leisure Management

Theology, Divinity & Religious studies

Classics and Ancient History

Source: QS World Rankings 2025, Shanghai Academic Subject Rankings 2024,
Times Higher Education (THE) 2025



Top 101-150 universities in the world for:

Development Studies

Earth Sciences

Food Science & Technology

Geography

Pharmacy & Pharmacology

Philosophy

Psychology

Top 151-200 universities in the world for:

Earth Sciences

Law

Medicine

Sociology

Public Health



What can I study at Otago?

With more than 3500 courses to choose from across Commerce, Humanities, Sciences and Health Sciences, there's something for everyone. The next few pages feature some popular themes and course options for our incoming Study Abroad and Exchange students. Keep an eye out for fieldwork and New Zealand/Pacific focused options to maximise your time here.







New Zealand Focused Fieldwork courses

ANTH324 Archaeological Practice ●

Focuses on archaeological field methods, resource management, and cultural heritage practices. Includes practical training in site mapping and data collection during a supervised visit to a local archaeological site.

BTNY202 Plant and Fungal Diversity ●

Explores the diversity and evolutionary relationships of land plants and fungi, particularly within a New Zealand context. Field studies at local sites support the identification and understanding of key species.

BTNY203 Marine and Freshwater Botany ●

Covers the taxonomy, ecology, and physiology of aquatic plants and algae across marine and freshwater environments. Fieldwork includes observation and sampling in coastal and riparian zones.

EAOSIII Earth and Ocean Science ●

Introduces Earth system science, covering the ocean, atmosphere, climate, plate tectonics, and the impact of human activity. Includes practical exploration of regional geological and environmental features through two local field days.

ECOL212 Ecological Applications ●

Applies ecological theory to contemporary environmental issues and management practices. A weekend field course provides opportunities to apply concepts in practical ecological assessments and planning.

ECOL313 Ecology Field Course ●

Offers in-depth training in ecological research methods, sampling techniques, and data analysis. Students participate in a seven-day residential field course involving hands-on ecological research under academic supervision.

GEOL112 Dynamic Earth: A New Zealand Perspective ●

Explores the dynamic geological processes shaping our planet, including plate tectonics, natural hazards, Earth structure, and the formation of New Zealand (Zealandia). Emphasis is placed on real-world examples from the local landscape. The paper includes three full-day weekend field trips to explore geological features firsthand.

GEOL252 Field Studies and NZ Geology ●

Develops practical skills in geological mapping and interpretation, with a focus on New Zealand's geological history and structures. Includes two residential field camps in Central Otago and Fiordland for intensive hands-on learning.

GEOL273 Modern and Ancient Sedimentary Systems ●

Examines sediment transport and deposition in both modern and ancient environments, with connections to climate change, tectonics, and glaciation. Students participate in two back-to-back weekend day trips along the South Otago Coast to study sedimentary systems in the field.

MARI112 Marine Biology: The Living Ocean ●

An introduction to the physical, chemical, and biological processes that shape life in the oceans. Covers marine biodiversity, ocean formation, and human impacts. Includes hands-on fieldwork and practical sessions aboard the University's research vessels, offering real-world experience in marine science.

MARI322 Coastal and Shelf Seas Oceanography ●

Focuses on the biological and physical interactions in ocean systems, with attention to productivity and the distribution of marine organisms. Field experiences in coastal and open ocean environments provide practical insight into oceanographic research.

TOUR219 Destination Management ●

Focuses on the management and development of tourism destinations, with topics including accessibility, demand, sustainability, stakeholder collaboration, and crisis response. The paper includes a three-day field experience working with tourism operators and planners.

TOUR306 Ecotourism and Sustainable Development ●

Explores the principles and practices of ecotourism and nature-based tourism, with an emphasis on sustainable development, community involvement, and conservation. Students may visit an operational site to gain insight into real-world ecotourism management.

ZOOL221 Animal Designs for Living ●

Examines the structural diversity and adaptations of animal phyla, using examples from local fauna. Field experiences are used to gather observational and experimental data for analysis and reporting.

Key: Semester one ● Semester two ●



New Zealand Māori/Pacific Focused courses

ANTH 204 - Pacific and New Zealand Archaeology

In this course we cover the entire archaeological history of the Pacific, from the first arrival of people in the region 50,000 years ago to the colonial era of the nineteenth century. We follow the migratory journeys of the peoples of Oceania, who colonised islands from southeast Asia, through the tropical Pacific, southward to Aotearoa. These journeys represent the greatest maritime migration in human history.

ANTH205 Anthropology and the Contemporary Pacific

An introduction to the anthropology of contemporary Pacific cultures with reference to how ethnography and theory address representation, social and environmental change in the region. We use selected case studies drawn from various national identities and ethnicities in order to explore their relationship with human rights, military bases, resources, poverty, gendered violence and resilience.

INDS307 - Ancient East Polynesian Histories

Topics in ancient pre-contact Indigenous histories of selected East Polynesian societies, such as Aotearoa/New Zealand, Cook Islands and Hawai'i.

MAORI02 - Māori Society

An introduction to the theory and practice of Māori culture and society in traditional and contemporary contexts.

MAORI08 - Waiata: Te Timatanga

An introductory study of various forms of waiata (Māori performing art) including haka from traditional to contemporary times. A practicum component is also included.

MAORI10 - Introduction to Conversation Māori

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

MAOR202 - Māori and Tikanga

An examination of Māori culture in traditional and contemporary contexts.

MAOR203 - Ngāi Tahu Society

An introduction to the knowledge base of traditional Ngāi Tahu society (mana whenua in the Otago region), with emphasis on traditional lifestyles. Some of the topics covered are mythical ancestors and their deeds, whakapapa, imagery and food. Field trips to various sites of importance to Ngāi Tahu.

MAOR 204 Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The history and politics of Te Tiriti o Waitangi (The Treaty of Waitangi) in both its historical and contemporary contexts which advance an Indigenous position.

MAOR327 - Ngā Pakanga Nunui: New Zealand Wars

An investigation into New Zealand's nineteenth-century colonial conflicts, including their causes and repercussions.

PACI101 - Pacific Societies

An introduction to selected Pacific societies in traditional and contemporary contexts, with a focus on indigenous perspectives.

PACI103 - Languages and Cultures of the Pacific - An Introduction

An introduction to a select Pacific language. In 2025: An introduction to Tongan language and culture. It focuses on the main aspects of the Tongan culture as well as basic conversational and written Tongan in the New Zealand context.

PACI201 - Contemporary Pacific Island Issues

Contemporary social, political and economic issues affecting peoples living in the Pacific region. Focus on urbanisation, land, poverty, climate change and social issues.

PACI301 - Gafa o Tagata Pasifika - Pacific Diaspora in New Zealand

The Pacific diaspora living in New Zealand, including issues such as identity, culture, spirituality, education and contemporary music.

Course example. Explore full list of options at otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects.

Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change

Semester 1		Semester 2	
ECOL 111	Ecology and Conservation Diversity	AGRI 101	Agricultural Innovation
ECON 207	Environmental Economics	AGRI 221	New Zealand Agriculture
ENVI 111	Environment and Society	EMAN 204	Renewable Energy Technologies
ENVI 311	Understanding Environmental Issues	ENVI 211	Environmental History of New Zealand ●
GEOG 216	Environmental Management: Principles and Values	ENVI 312	Interdisciplinary Aspects of Climate Change
GEOG 265	Natural Hazards of NZ and Beyond ●●	FINC 320	Sustainable Investing
MANT 337	Organisations and Sustainability	GEOG 102	Geographies of Sustainable Futures
PHIL 235	Environmental Philosophy	GEOG 228	Geographies of Global Development and Sustainability
PHSI 243	Environmental Physics	GEOG 397	Environmental Management: Policy and Practice
POLS 307	Nature, Conflict and the State	GLBL 201	Cultures of the Environment
TOUR 306	Ecotourism and Sustainable Development ●	POLS 224	Current Issues in Environmental Politics

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/study/subjects/environment-climate-change-and-sustainability



Key
Fieldwork ●
New Zealand focused ●

Marine Science, Animals and Life Sciences

Semester 1		Semester 2	
BTNY 201	Plant Functional Biology and Biotechnology	ANTH 321	Archaeozoology
BTNY 301	Plant Ecology ●	BIOA 101	Introduction to Biological Anthropology
ECOL 111	Ecology and Conservation of Diversity ●	BTNY 202	Plant and Fungal Diversity ●
ECOL 211	Ecology of Communities and Ecosystems ●	BTNY 203	Marine and Freshwater Botany ●
ECOL 313	Ecology Field Course* ●	BTNY 302	Plant Interactions
GENE 221	Molecular and Microbial Genetics	ECOL 212	Ecological Applications ●
MARI 201	Oceanography: The Physical Ocean	ECOL 321	Ecology of Species Introductions and Invasions ●
MARI 301	Marine Ecology and Ecosystems ●	MARI 112	Marine Biology: The Living Ocean ●
MARI 302	Biology and Behaviour of Marine Vertebrates ●	MARI 202	Ecology and Biology of Marine Invertebrates ● ●
PLBI 301	Applied Plant Science	MARI 322	Coastal and Shelf Seas Oceanography ●
ZOOL 221	Animal Designs for Living ●	ZOOL 222	Evolutionary Biology
ZOOL 313	Animal Function and Environment	ZOOL 223	Animal Physiology
ZOOL 315	Behavioural and Evolutionary Ecology	ZOOL 314	Neurobiology
		ZOOL 318	Freshwater Ecology ●
		ZOOL 319	Conservation Biology

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/study/subjects/animals-and-life-sciences



*The fieldwork component of this paper commences prior to Semester 1 start.

Course example. Explore full list of options at otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects.

Physical Sciences

Semester 1		Semester 2	
CHEM 202	Organic Chemistry	ASTR 101	Introduction to Astronomy
CHEM 301	Physical Chemistry	CHEM 111	Chemistry: Molecular Architecture
EAOS 111	Earth and Ocean Science ●	CHEM 201	Physical Chemistry and its Applications
EMAN 201	Thermoprocesses 1	EMAN 204	Renewable Energy Technologies
GEOG 101	Physical Geography ●	GEOG 102	Geographies of Sustainable Futures
GEOL 251	Minerals and Rocks	GEOG 397	Environmental Management: Policy and Practice ●●
GEOL 252	Field Studies and NZ Geology* ●	GEOL 112	Dynamic Earth: A New Zealand Perspective ●●
GEOL 265	Natural Hazards of NZ and Beyond ●●	GEOL 273	Modern and Ancient Sedimentary Systems ●
MATH 202	Linear Algebra	MATH 201	Real Analysis
PHSI 131	Fundamentals of Physics I	MATH 203	Calculus of Several Variables
SURV 120	Surveying and Spatial Science ●	PHSI 222	Electromagnetism
		SURV 130	People, Place and the Built Environment

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/study/subjects/physical-sciences



Key

Fieldwork ●

New Zealand focused ●

*The fieldwork component of this paper commences prior to Semester 1 start.

Technology, Information and Computer Science

Semester 1		Semester 2	
COMP 151	Programming for Scientists	COMP 210	Information Assurance
COSC 201	Algorithms and Data Structures	COSC 203	Web, Databases, and Networks
COSC 202	Software Development	COSC 204	Computer Systems
COSC 301	Network Management and Security	COSC 312	Cryptography and Security
COSC 342	Visual Computing: Graphics & Vision	COSC 343	Artificial Intelligence
INFO 203	Human-Computer Interaction and User Experience	INFO 204	Introduction to Data Science
STAT 210	Applied Statistics	SPEX 311	Sports Technology
INFO 302	Information Systems Strategy and Governance		

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects/cosc

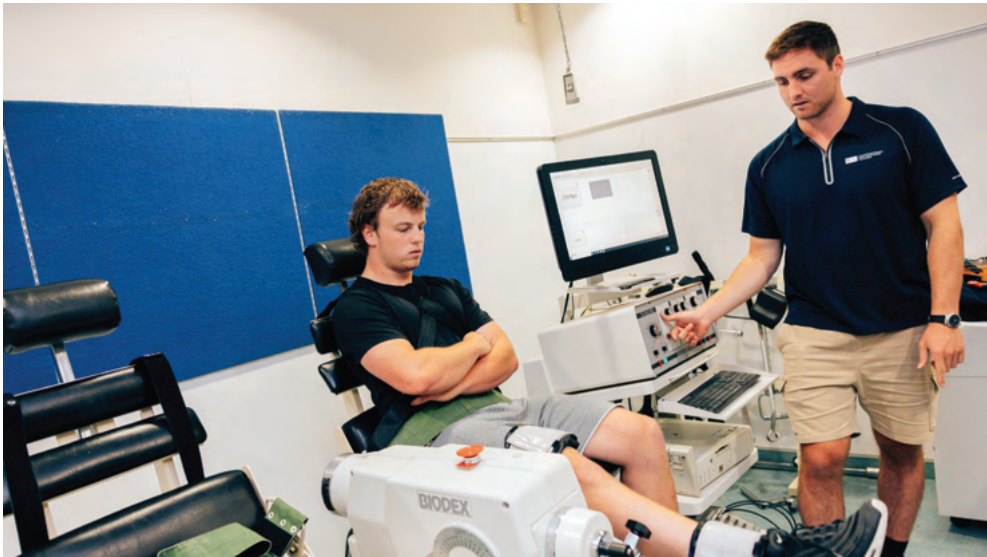


Course example. Explore full list of options at otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects.

Sport, Nutrition and Wellbeing

Semester 1		Semester 2	
ANAT 101	Anatomy for Sport Exercise	HUNT 141	Understanding Human Nutrition
HUNT 141	Understanding Human Nutrition	HUNT 345	Applied Sports Nutrition
HUNT 241	Fundamentals of Nutrients and Health	PACH 201	Pacific Health: New Zealand and the Pacific Region ●
HUNT 245	Sport and Exercise Nutrition	PHSL 101	Physiology for Sport and Exercise
MART 207	Sports Marketing	PUBH 202	Health Promotion ●
SPEX 101	Sport, Science and Society	SOCI 209	Health and Society
SPEX 203	Exercise Physiology	SPEX 102	Principles of Exercise for Health and Performance
SPEX 206	Te Pū o te Ora: Māori Physical Education and Health ●	SPEX 204	Psychology of Sport and Exercise
SPEX 207	Understanding Sports Coaching ●	SPEX 205	Physical Activity and Health
SPEX 209	Sport Development and Management	SPEX 208	Sociology of Sport and Exercise
SPEX 304	Sport Psychology	SPEX 307	Coaching, Leadership and Mentoring
TOUR 216	Sport Tourism		

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects/spnu



Key
Fieldwork ●
New Zealand focused ●

Health and Biomedical Sciences

Semester 1		Semester 2	
BIOC 221	Molecular Biology	BIOA 101	Introduction to Biological Anthropology
BITC 201	Bioethics and the Life Sciences	GENE 222	Genes, Chromosomes and Populations
FORS 201	Analytical and Forensic Science	MICR 223	Infection and Immunity
GENE 221	Molecular and Microbial Genetics	PATH 201	Foundations in Human Pathology
HUNT 141	Understanding Human Nutrition	POPH 192	Population Health
MICR 221	Microbes to Medicine	PUBH 204	Hauora Māori Challenges and Opportunities (Māori public health) ●
MICR 334	Advanced Immunology	STAT 115	Introduction to Biostatistics
PUBH 211	Epidemiology of Global Health Conditions		

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/study/subjects/health-and-biomedical-sciences



Course example. Explore full list of options at otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects.

Business, Tourism, Marketing and Management

Semester 1		Semester 2	
BSNS 111	Business and Society ●	BSNS 114	Financial Decision Making
BSNS 114	Financial Decision Making	FOSC 112	Introduction to Food Marketing
GEOG 216	Environmental Management: Principles and Values	ECON 303	Economics of Developing Countries
MANT 217	International Management	MANT 101	Managing for Performance
MANT 222	Interpersonal/International Business Communication ●	MANT 251	Managing Organisations
MANT 250	Managing People	MANT 252	Developing Responsible Leadership
MANT 301	Managing Innovation and Growth	MANT 330	Leadership and Change
MANT 303	Entrepreneurship	MANT 332	International Management ●
MANT 334	Operations and Supply Chain Strategy	MART 112	Marketing
MANT 337	Organisations and Sustainability	MART 201	Integrated Marketing Communications
MART 112	Marketing	MART 211	Products to Market
MART 207	Sports Marketing ●	TOUR 101	Introduction to Tourism ●
MART 210	Consumer Marketing	TOUR 102	Global Tourism
MART 308	Integrated Digital Marketing	TOUR 217	Tourist Behaviour
TOUR 101	Introduction to Tourism ●		
TOUR 219	Destination Management ●		
TOUR 301	Cultural and Heritage Tourism ●		

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/apply/tour



Key
Fieldwork ●
New Zealand focused ●

New Zealand Māori, Pacific and Indigenous Studies

Semester 1		Semester 2	
ANTH 204	Pacific and New Zealand Archaeology ●	MANT 340	Indigenous Management and Organisation ●
ANTH 205	Anthropology and the Contemporary Pacific	MAOR 102	Māori Society ●
ENGL 339	Māori and Pacific Literature	MAOR 110	Introduction to Conversational Māori ●
MAOR 102	Māori Society ●	MAOR 202	Māori and Tikanga (culture/customs) ●
MAOR 108	Waiata: Te Timatanga (Māori performing art) ●	PACH 201	Pacific Health: New Zealand and the Pacific Region
MAOR 110	Introduction to Conversational Māori ●	PACI 101	Pacific Societies
POLS 319	Treaty Politics (Treaty of Waitangi) ●	RELS 111	Māori Spirituality and the World's Religions ●

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects/maor



Course example. Explore full list of options at otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects.

Law, Criminology, Psychology and Sociology

Semester 1		Semester 2	
CRIM 201	Crime, Justice and Society	GEND 102	Bodies, Sexualities and Society
GEND 101	Gender in Everyday Life	GEND 205	Gender and the Media
GEND 208	Governing Bodies	GEND 206	Gender, Work and Consumer Culture
GEND 210	Gender, Crime and Justice	GEND 209	Critical Victimology
LAWS 353	The Law in the South Pacific	LAWS 440	Environmental Law
LAWS 403	Immigration and Refugee Law ●	POLS 202	Theories of Justice
PSYC 111	Brain and Behaviour	PSYC 112	Human Thought and Behaviour
PSYC 210	Principles of Psychological Research	PSYC 203	Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 325	Psychology in Legal Contexts	PSYC 211	Brain and Cognition
SOCI 101	Sociology of New Zealand Society ●	PSYC 329	Cultural Psychology ●
SOCI 202	Big Ideas in Sociology	PSYC 330	Drugs, Behaviour, Addiction and Policy ●
SOCI 207	Families and Society ●		
SOCI 211	Colonisation, Globalisation and Social Justice ●	SOCI 102	Cultural and Social Identities
SOCI 302	Theories of Social Power	SOCI 103	Crime, Deviance and Social Transformation
SOCI 312	Crime, Technology and Social Change	SOCI 203	Young People and Society
		SOCI 205	Social Inequality
		SOCI 209	Health and Society
		SOCI 213	Concepts of the Self

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects/crim



Key
Fieldwork ●
New Zealand focused ●

History, Anthropology, Politics, Philosophy and Society

Semester 1	Semester 2
ANTH 103 Introduction to Anthropology	ANTH 105 Global and Local Cultures
ANTH 204 Pacific and New Zealand Archaeology ●	ANTH 106 Human Origins and Civilisations
ANTH 205 Anthropology and the Contemporary Pacific ●	ANTH 321 Archaeozoology ●
ANTH 330 New Zealand Archaeology ●	CLAS 105 Greek Mythology
GLBL 202 A World of Stories: Global Storytelling in the Digital Age	GLBL 201 Cultures of the Environment
HIST 102 The Global Twentieth Century	HIST 108 From Medieval to Modern Europe
HIST 107 New Zealand in the World from the 18th Century ●	HIST 229 Darwin versus God? Science and Society, 1789-1914
HIST 245 Global Migrations: From Slavery to Refugees	LING 230 Interaction and Identity in Context
LING 217 What's Behind Language: Sound and Structure	PHIL 105 Critical Thinking
PHIL 101 Mind and Reality	PHIL 234 Are there moral facts?
PHIL 106 Radical Philosophy	PHIL 240 Epistemology: The Theory of Knowledge
PHIL 228 Ethics	POLS 102 New Zealand Politics – Introduction ●
POLS 104 International Relations – Introduction	RELS 237 Psychology of Religion
POLS 105 Comparative Politics – Introduction	
POLS 250 International Security in a Globalising World	

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/study/subjects/history-philosophy-people-and-society



Media, Literature, Communications and Performing Arts

Semester 1		Semester 2	
DANC 101	Dance and Popular Culture	DANC 201	Contemporary Dance Fusions
ENGL 120	Creative Writing: How to Captivate and Persuade	ENGL 128	Essentials of Communication
ENGL 121	English Literature: The Remix	GEND 205	Gender and the Media
MFCO 101	Screen Form and Culture	MFCO 102	Media, Power, Society
MFCO 103	Introduction to Communication Studies	MFCO 213	Media Genres
MFCO 212	Media and Intercultural Communication	MFCO 318	Indigenous Media
MFCO 216	Cinema of Aotearoa New Zealand ●	MUSI 132	Music Production 1
MFCO 220	Writing for the Media	MUSI 140	Performance Studies 1
MFCO 223	Documentary and Reality Media	THEA 153	Voice and Movement
MFCO 312	Communication and the City	THEA 241	Writing for Stage and Screen
MFCO 315	Digital Media and Society		
MUSI 103	Popular Music		
MUSI 140	Performance Studies 1		

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/study/subjects/media-literature-communication-and-performing-arts



Education and Teaching

Semester 1		Semester 2	
EDUC 102	Human Development	EDCR 102	The Languages of Children
EDUC 105	Disability Studies: An Introduction	EDUC 101	Education and Society
EDUC 252	How People Learn	EDUC 251	Education in New Zealand: Policy and Treaty Issues ●
EDUC 254	Family Resources, Culture, and Education	EDUC 259	Educating Global Citizens for the 21st Century
EDUC 307	Child Development	EDUC 318	Gender Issues in Education
EDUC 308	Future-Focused Literacies	EDUC 321	Educational Psychology
EDUC 313	Equity in Education		

For all courses check here: otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects/educ





Otago

Academic year



Semester 1

Mid-February to mid-June

Starts in the New Zealand summer and finishes as winter sets in.



Semester 2

July to mid-November

Starts in winter and finishes as the New Zealand summer season begins.



Summer School

January/February

Six weeks – limited course options.

Finding a course (paper)

At Otago, stand-alone courses or modules are called 'papers'.

To find Otago's full range of papers, go to: otago.ac.nz/courses/papers/ and search by subject, keywords or semester.

Alternatively, you can browse through subject themes: otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects/index.html

Levels of study are indicated by the paper code number – 100 level is first year of undergraduate study, 200 is second year and so on.

Be sure to check the semester of study and any pre-requisites (or the equivalent at your home institution).

An updated list of papers for the following academic year is published by September each year.

Workload/credits

Most Otago papers are single semester and are typically worth 18 points each.

A full-time course is generally 54–72 points in any one semester (three to four papers).

It is important to speak to your home institution before selecting your papers, in case of workload or paper requirements at Otago.

You can expect to spend approximately 15 hours per week for each single-semester paper (18 points). These hours are made up of a combination of lectures, tutorials/ laboratories, assignments and readings.

18 points at Otago are worth approximately 9 ECTS and 3–5 US credits.

Uniquely Otago

Where weekend playgrounds
are our weekday laboratories





UniFlats accommodation

The classic Otago student flatting experience



More than just a room, a University Flat (UniFlat) offers a memorable experience with like-minded flatmates.

UniFlats are shared, villa-style houses with four to six students, each with their own room. Located around the heart of the Otago campus, getting to class is just a short 2–10 minute stroll.

The best part? We match you with other students who share similar interests, so you'll have a group of international friends as soon you arrive.

For many of our flats, you will also have a 'Kiwi Host' – a friendly New Zealand student already studying at Otago. They will help you with all the best tips for settling into student life and exploring this part of the country.



otago.ac.nz/uniflats



UniFlats Experience

- Guaranteed* room for Study Abroad and Exchange students.
- Unique opportunity to live the Otago student lifestyle.
- Fully furnished private bedrooms and shared living spaces. Each flat has its own laundry.
- Close walking distance to campus.
- Easiest way to secure a trustworthy rental agreement that is in line with the Otago academic calendar.
- Great value with an all-inclusive semester fee to cover Wi-Fi, electricity, utilities, flat maintenance and activities.
- Opportunity to drop off your bags and explore the South Island before Semester 1 starts, or stay on after Semester 2 exams to explore before your flight home.
- UniFlats community events and activities to get involved in.

*Applications made after the annual deadline may not be guaranteed.

Sustainability neighbourhoods



A joint initiative between UniFlats and the Sustainability Office, the Otago Sustainability Neighbourhoods offer a unique flatting experience with the added layer of making an impact.

The Sustainability Neighbourhoods include a limited group of flats dedicated to selected environmentally conscious students who actively work to reduce their environmental impact. The neighbourhoods are set up for residents to:

- grow their own food
- compost
- recycle
- be energy efficient
- lead an active, healthy lifestyle
- work as a team to stay accountable.

Getting involved

Become the best version of yourself at Otago, where volunteering and good citizenship are part of our University culture.



**SOCIAL
IMPACT
STUDIO**



ousa

Through our Social Impact Studio, UniCrew volunteers, Otago University Students' Association (OUSA) and University groups, there are many opportunities to get connected and become socially, environmentally and inclusive global citizens.

- Tree planting
- Good Deed and Feed
- Food drives
- Mending café and other sustainable fashion initiatives
- OUSA Queer Support
- Global Citizenship programme
- Multi-faith chaplaincy.

Global Impact Scholars Programme

- a unique opportunity for study abroad and exchange students to develop leadership skills, volunteer in the local community, and make a meaningful impact during their time at Otago.

Experience the benefits of getting involved and contribute to positive change while gaining valuable experience and strengthening your future career prospects.



Recreation

It's not difficult to maintain a healthy, balanced and fun lifestyle while studying at Otago. With so many opportunities for recreation on and off campus, there really is something for everyone.

Unipol is a comprehensive, free student facility that includes weight training and cardio rooms, team sports, subsidised fitness classes and social areas where students can meet up and keep active.

Student outdoor equipment rentals

Whatever you're into – whether it be hiking, surfing or skiing – Unipol also has your outdoor rental equipment needs covered.

High-quality rental equipment includes:

- personal locator beacon (a must-have for hiking)
- snow equipment and clothing
- surfboards and wetsuits
- tents and sleeping bags
- sports equipment (tennis, volleyball, cricket, etc.).

Learn more: otago.ac.nz/recreation



Clubs, Communities & Support Spaces

Over 170 student-led clubs and societies!

Our Study Abroad and Exchange students particularly love these popular clubs, but there are so many more to get involved with, such as: snow sports, tramping (hiking), canoeing, climbing and scuba diving.

Our Queer Support Coordinator offers one-on-one support including; confidential chats, peer support, events and education for staff and students. We also offer resources, groups, and training/professional development to staff and students.

Faith Space at the University of Otago is a welcoming and inclusive area designed for students and staff of all faiths (or none) to have a quiet place for prayer, meditation, or reflection



ousa.org.nz/clubsandsocs/clubs/clubs-list



How to apply for Study Abroad

1. Talk to your home institution

The first step is to talk to your home institution's Study Abroad/Exchange office, or a specialist Study Abroad provider/education consultant. They can help you with the nomination application process and check that the credits earned at Otago can be transferred back to your degree at your home institution.

2. Check Otago's entry requirements

To be eligible for Study Abroad at Otago, you usually must:

- be currently enrolled and have completed at least one semester of study at an accredited institution
- have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 minimum on a 4-point scale, or have a credit, "good", or above average results.

Students who do not meet these criteria should speak to their home institute for further guidance on eligibility.

3. Check English language requirements

If English is not your first language, you must provide evidence of English language proficiency with one of the following:

- IELTS: 6.0 in the academic module (with no individual band below 5.5).
- TOEFL iBT: Overall score of 80 and a writing score of 20.
- Denmark: 7 in English A, and 10 in English B in the Upper Secondary School examination/Studentereksamen.
- Germany: 3 or below (6–1 grading scale) or 8 or above (1–15 grading scale) in Abitur English Language; or B2 or C1 in the DAAD test.
- Norway: 4.0 or higher in the student's final year of English for Vitnemål for videregående opplæring.
- Sweden: Grade of C (VG) or better in English 5 and 6 (English A and B) for Slutbetyg/Examensbevis från Gymnasieskolan.

If the above options are not able to be provided, a statement from the student's home institute testifying that the student's language ability is deemed sufficient to meet language entry requirements may be considered.

For a full list of accepted English language proficiency evidence, visit:

otago.ac.nz/international/future-students/entrance-requirements/english-language-requirements

4. Otago application tips

Whether an application is submitted by you directly, or by your home institute/specialist Study Abroad provider/education consultant, please note the following:

- You must select 'Certificate of Proficiency – Incoming Study Abroad' in our Otago eVision application system (do not select the name of the degree programme you are studying at your home institution).
- Your 'sponsor' is either your home institution, specialist Study Abroad provider or education consultant.
- Your passport must be officially certified by either your home institution, specialist Study Abroad provider or education consultant.

Other academic transcripts and English language evidence must be official 'certified true copies' that include the certifying person's position, name, signature and official stamp. This can be done by your home institution, specialist Study Abroad provider, education consultant or Notary Public.

5. Accept your offer

You will receive a digital Offer of Place letter in your eVision portal – use the buttons at the bottom of the letter to accept your place at Otago. You will need your Offer of Place as part of your student visa application.

6. Select your papers

Once you have accepted your Offer of Place, you can select papers in your eVision portal. Please check with your home institution for any workload or prescribed course requirements. Review pages 18–29 in this guide for inspiration or check the subjects and papers section on the University website to search for papers on offer. Make sure the papers you're interested in studying are offered in the same semester that you will be at Otago.

otago.ac.nz/courses/subjects/

7. Special Permission process

For papers above 100-level (first year) that require Otago prerequisites, students need to apply for Special Permission. This is a normal step for most Study Abroad students. The relevant department(s) will review your request and your previous studies. Once a decision has been made, this will be communicated to you via an alert in your eVision portal.

8. Apply for UniFlats housing

Apply for your place in a UniFlat by navigating to the 'Residential Colleges and UniFlats' section in your eVision portal. Provide as much information about yourself as possible, as this is used to match you with other like-minded international students.

Your offer of accommodation will be sent to you directly from the UniFlats team. It is important you reply to the offer within the specified timeframe to guarantee your placement.

9. Pre-departure

Keep an eye out for information about our pre-departure steps and what to expect at orientation. Stay connected through our 'Your Otago' newsletter series and pre-departure webinars.

Otago Study Abroad application deadlines

Semester 1 (February–June): 1 December

Semester 2 (July–November): 30 April

Summer School (January–February): 31 October

UniFlats

Semester 1: Applications open 1 August. Applications received before 1 November will be processed in the first round of placements. Later applications will always be considered depending on availability.

Semester 2: Applications open 1 April. Applications received before 15 May will be processed in the first round of placements. Later applications will always be considered depending on availability.

Please note: Your home institute, specialist Study Abroad provider or education consultant may have additional important deadlines connected to your nomination and application.



English + Study Abroad



**Have the full experience!
Improve your English
language skills before
transitioning into a Study
Abroad semester at Otago.**

Spend your first semester settling into New Zealand life by gaining new language skills and confidence in your English communication level, while living with a friendly homestay family.

Next, get the full Otago experience by studying our popular academic course options as a Study Abroad student. Join your international peers and develop your independent living skills in our popular UniFlats student accommodation*.

*See pages 40–42

Contact
englishlanguage.groups@otago.ac.nz



otago.ac.nz/pathway

OTAGO GLOBAL

Otago Exchange partners

The University of Otago has established exchange agreements with numerous institutions worldwide, facilitating reciprocal student exchanges. As an exchange student, you will continue to pay tuition fees to your home institution and will not be required to pay tuition fees at Otago. If you are enrolled at a partner institution, please contact your international office for information on the exchange nomination process, application procedures, and deadlines. For additional details, visit otago.ac.nz/otagoglobal

If your university is not listed below, you are welcome to apply as a Study Abroad student.

ARGENTINA	Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina
AUSTRALIA	University of Melbourne University of Sydney University of Tasmania University of Western Australia
AUSTRIA	Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien
BELGIUM	Catholic University of Louvain (Business School)
BRAZIL	Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV-EAESP) Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro
CANADA	Brock University Dalhousie University McGill University Memorial University of Newfoundland (Indigenous) Mt Allison University Queen's University University of Alberta University of British Columbia University of Toronto Western University, Western Law and Richard Ivey School of Business York University, Schulich School of Business
CHILE	Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
CHINA (Mainland)	Dalian University of Foreign Languages Fudan University Tsinghua University and Tsinghua University School of Economics and Management
CZECH REPUBLIC	Charles University Prague University of Economics and Business
DENMARK	Aarhus University and Aarhus University School of Business and Social Sciences University of Copenhagen and Copenhagen Business School (CBS)
ENGLAND	Durham University University of Bristol University of East Anglia University of Essex University of Exeter University of Leeds University of Manchester University of the West of England
FINLAND	Aalto University School of Business University of Helsinki
FRANCE	EM Normandie (Campus in France, Ireland, UK, UAE) Grenoble Ecole de Management Université Sorbonne Nouvelle (Paris 3)

GERMANY	Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg Universität Heidelberg (Ruprecht-Karls-Universität) Universität Leipzig, Social Sciences and Philosophy Universität Tübingen
HONG KONG	University of Cologne Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Science Chinese University of Hong Kong and CUHK Faculty of Business University of Hong Kong
HUNGARY	Corvinus University of Budapest
ICELAND	University of Iceland
IRELAND	University College Dublin, National University of Ireland Lochlann Quinn School of Business Trinity College Dublin
ITALY	Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi Università of Bologna
JAPAN	Hirosaki University Hokkaido University Keio University Kyoto University Nagoya University of Commerce and Business Otaru University of Commerce Rissho University University of Tokyo
MEXICO	Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM) Tecnológico de Monterrey
NORWAY	University of Bergen
POLAND	Warsaw School of Economics
PORTUGAL	Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Faculdade de Economia
SCOTLAND	University of Edinburgh University of Glasgow University of Strathclyde
SINGAPORE	National University of Singapore
SOUTH KOREA	Yonsei University
SPAIN	ESADE ESADE Law School (Law, Economics and Politics) Universidad Complutense de Madrid
SWEDEN	Lund University Stockholm School of Economics Umeå University Uppsala University
SWITZERLAND	Universität St Gallen
TAIWAN	National Taiwan University
THAILAND	Chulalongkorn University
THE NETHERLANDS	Erasmus University, Rotterdam School of Management Leiden University University of Amsterdam
TURKEY	Graduate School of Social Sciences, of Middle East Technical University
USA	Boston College Duke University, Fuqua School of Business MBA Indiana University, Kelley School of Business MBA University of California (9 campuses) University of Colorado Boulder University of Hawai'i at Manoa University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, UNC Kenan-Flagler School of Business
and	UNC MBA Programme University of Richmond University of Texas and McCombs School of Business University of Virginia Willamette University (Indigenous)
WALES	Cardiff University

Living costs



Dunedin is one of New Zealand’s most affordable cities. With students at the heart of the community, there are entertainment, food and transport options for all budgets.

Study Abroad and Exchange students should plan for the following budget per semester:

	\$NZD	\$USD	€EUR
Approximate total living costs per semester*	12,000	7,500	6,800

This amount is sufficient to cover accommodation, food, getting around and general leisure.

We recommend you bring extra funds for additional travel and activities outside of Dunedin.

**Based on currency conversion at the time of publication.*







Student support and essential information

Our top-quality education and facilities are matched by our range of student support services – dedicated to helping you get the very best out of your time at Otago.

- International Student Support Services, Orientation and Enrolment, Visa and Insurance Services.
- Student Health Services (nurses, doctors, mental health and wellbeing team).
- Disability Information and Support (academic accommodations).
- Multi-Faith Campus Chaplains.
- Otago University Students' Association (OUSA) support services, including Queer Support.
- Library Services and Resources.
- Course Advice.
- Student Learning Development (workshops, peer tutoring).
- Career Development Centre.
- Student IT Services.
- Ask Otago (one-stop help desk)
- Campus Watch (24/7 safety service)

Student visa

You must be granted a visa valid for study at the University of Otago before entering New Zealand, and continue to hold a valid visa throughout your enrolment period. The Immigration New Zealand (INZ) website provides full information.

immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas

Otago's Student Visa Services can provide assistance and support, including information for students on campus who need to renew their visa: student.visa@otago.ac.nz. If you're planning on bringing your spouse/partner and/or children with you to New Zealand, they will need to apply for an appropriate visa based on their circumstances.

Work rights

Study Abroad students are not granted work rights during the semester. They are granted full-time work rights during scheduled vacations, only if studying for two semesters. Exchange students are granted part-time work rights during the semester and full-time work rights during scheduled vacations, only if studying for two semesters. For more information, visit the Immigration New Zealand website:

immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/preparing-a-visa-application/education-quals-study/working-on-a-student-visa

Working holiday visa (selected countries)

A working holiday visa allows students to study courses in New Zealand that can be completed within six months.

immigration.govt.nz/new-zealand-visas/preparing-a-visa-application/working-in-nz/how-long-can-you-work-in-new-zealand-for/working-holiday-visa

Medical and travel insurance

All international students are required to have comprehensive health and travel insurance while in New Zealand. The University of Otago's recommended policy is Studentsafe Inbound University. When you enrol you will automatically be covered by Studentsafe, and the insurance premium will be added to your student account.

otago.ac.nz/international/healthcare

Accident insurance

The Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) provides accident insurance for all New Zealand citizens, residents and temporary visitors to New Zealand. However, you may still be liable for all other medical and related costs.

acc.co.nz



The information provided in this guide is, as far as possible, up to date and accurate at the time of publication. Please check the website for the most up-to-date information. The University reserves the right to add, amend or withdraw courses and facilities, to restrict student numbers and to make any other alterations, as it may deem necessary. Published May 2025 by the International Office, University of Otago.

