

University of Canterbury, New Zealand  
2012 Study Abroad Prospectus



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# Discover New Zealand

Welcome to New Zealand!  
As a Study Abroad student you'll have the chance to experience all that New Zealand has to offer, from breathtaking landscapes to vibrant cities and unlimited outdoor adventure.

## Five great reasons to study in New Zealand:

**1** A spectacular natural environment – New Zealand has awesome landscapes and mountains, lush forests and unique wildlife. Kiwis (New Zealanders) love to get out and enjoy the amazing setting in which they live and you'll be able to make the most of a unique natural environment where you can go whale watching one day and snowboarding the next.

**2** Challenge yourself - The South Island is known as the adventure capital of the world. If you love an adrenaline rush, you'll find plenty of thrill-seeking activities on offer, including bungy jumping, white water rafting, jet boating and skiing. The sky's the limit!

**3** A multicultural and dynamic society - As a melting pot of culinary tastes, fashions and lifestyles from around the Pacific Rim, New Zealand has an identity all its own. You'll be able to discover the rich culture of the Maori (New Zealand's indigenous population) and explore New Zealand film, arts and fashion. English is the everyday language of New Zealand and Kiwis are known as a nation of laid-back and friendly people.

**4** The Kiwi "give it a go" mentality – New Zealand is a young and vibrant country, ranked second in the world for innovation by the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor.

**5** Climate – a temperate climate with relatively small seasonal variation makes New Zealand an ideal Study Abroad destination and a great place to explore throughout the year.



### FACTS AND FIGURES: New Zealand

- Location: South Pacific Ocean, southeast of Australia.
- Size: 268,680 sq km, similar in size to Great Britain and Japan.
- Capital city: Wellington.
- Population: 4 million, about 80% of people live in cities.
- Ethnic groups:
  - New Zealand European 74.5%
  - Maori 9.7%
  - Other European 4.6%
  - Pacific Islander 3.8%
  - Asian and others 7.4%
- Language: English is the everyday language. Māori and New Zealand Sign Language are also official languages.
- Climate: Temperate
  - Summer (Dec–Feb) 20°C – 30°C
  - Winter (Jun–Aug) 10°C – 15°C



Opposite and above: Christchurch is within easy reach of the spectacular scenery of the South Island for climbing, tramping, mountain biking, surfing, skiing and snowboarding. Ten ski fields are within two hours drive of the city.

*“I think every person [...] dreams of finding an enchanted place with beautiful mountains and breathtaking coastlines and clear lakes and amazing wildlife but most people give up on it, because they’ve never been to New Zealand”*

Former US President Bill Clinton  
September 16 1999



Milford Sound, Fiordland National Park.



## Christchurch

Christchurch is an ethnically diverse city offering an exciting and easy lifestyle for students. With a population of almost 400,000, Christchurch is the largest city in the South Island and the second largest in the country.

Located on the east coast and near the Southern Alps, the city is close to both the sea and the mountains, offering a huge range of recreational options.

You'll find skiing and snowboarding at five ski fields within 90 minutes of Christchurch and beautiful beaches are also within a 30 minute drive of campus. If you're game, you can surf and ski in the same day.

Christchurch is a very accessible city with an international airport just 10 minutes drive from the University, providing direct flights to New Zealand and international centres.

Christchurch is currently undergoing a major rebuilding so students attending UC have an opportunity to be part of a moment in history as the city transforms itself into one of the world's most modern and sustainable cities.

The University is just minutes away from the cafes and bars in Riccarton and the largest shopping mall in the South Island.

### FACTS AND FIGURES: Christchurch

- Location: East Coast, South Island
- Size: Christchurch City 45,240 hectares
- Population: 348,400\*
- Climate: maximum 22.5°C – 11.3°C; minimum 12.2°C – 1.9°C
- Sunshine: Mean average 2,100 hours per annum
- Rainfall: rain days: 85 days per year; annual rainfall: 648 mm

\*Source: Statistics New Zealand

From the city it is only a short drive to the rugged beauty of Banks Peninsula, the historic French town of Akaroa, the thermal resort town of Hanmer Springs, the mountains and bush of Arthurs Pass National Park, and the seaside settlement of Kaikoura for whale watching.

The best thing about being a student in Christchurch is that you become a member of an amazing student body with an international reputation for its generous community spirit.



## Maria Akesson Sweden

Maria is from Sweden where she has been studying at Lund University. She likes to travel and experience different cultures and environments and needed an English-speaking destination for her study abroad experience.

“New Zealand was by far the most intriguing and interesting place and when I heard about the programme in the Geology department (my core subject) – things were settled.”

Maria spent her year abroad studying Geology at UC and found the University offered many interesting courses that would not have been available back home.

“New Zealand is ideal for geology – it's all happening here – the nature is so alive. I wouldn't have been able to study the things I study here in Sweden.”

She also took a course in Antarctic Studies and is considering further study in this area.

Maria liked the relaxed and friendly attitude of the people in Christchurch.

“There's not at all as much stress and pressure surrounding everyday life as in Sweden. Then there is the nature and the outdoors lifestyle. That's also one of the main reasons I came. Going tramping, sporting... wow!”

# University of Canterbury

The University of Canterbury (UC) was established in 1873 and is New Zealand's second oldest university. We have built up a strong international reputation for our high quality degrees, excellent teaching staff and cutting-edge research.

Since its establishment, the University of Canterbury has produced graduates who have gone on to become leaders in their fields. Our distinguished alumni include Nobel prize-winner Ernest Rutherford; Helen Connon, the first woman in the British Empire to graduate with an honours degree; and current New Zealand Prime Minister, Hon John Key.

Our programmes are well recognised worldwide, and aim to foster intellectual independence, critical thinking, and professional excellence in every field.

Academic staff are expected to be involved in research and publishing in their areas of speciality. As a result, even undergraduate students can expect to be taught by lecturers who are at the forefront of knowledge in their field.

Our students learn from lecturers who write the textbooks, are internationally respected and push the boundaries of knowledge. UC's world-class education is enhanced by the many outstanding international academics who visit the University each year on our staff exchange programmes.

Through UC's Erskine Programme, each year some 75 distinguished, international academic visitors in Commerce, Engineering or Science, are invited to UC to give lectures in their specialist areas. Previous Erskine Fellows have included two Nobel Prize winners: Emeritus Professor Clive Granger for Economic Sciences in 2003 and Professor Bob Grubbs for Chemistry in 2005.

The University community currently comprises 17,000 students and an academic staff of 850. It has been host to thousands of international students over a period of more than 40 years. In 2010, UC hosted over 2000 international students from more than 80 countries enrolled in a wide variety of programmes. This makes for a lively, interesting and cosmopolitan campus community.



*Mt John Observatory, Tekapo*

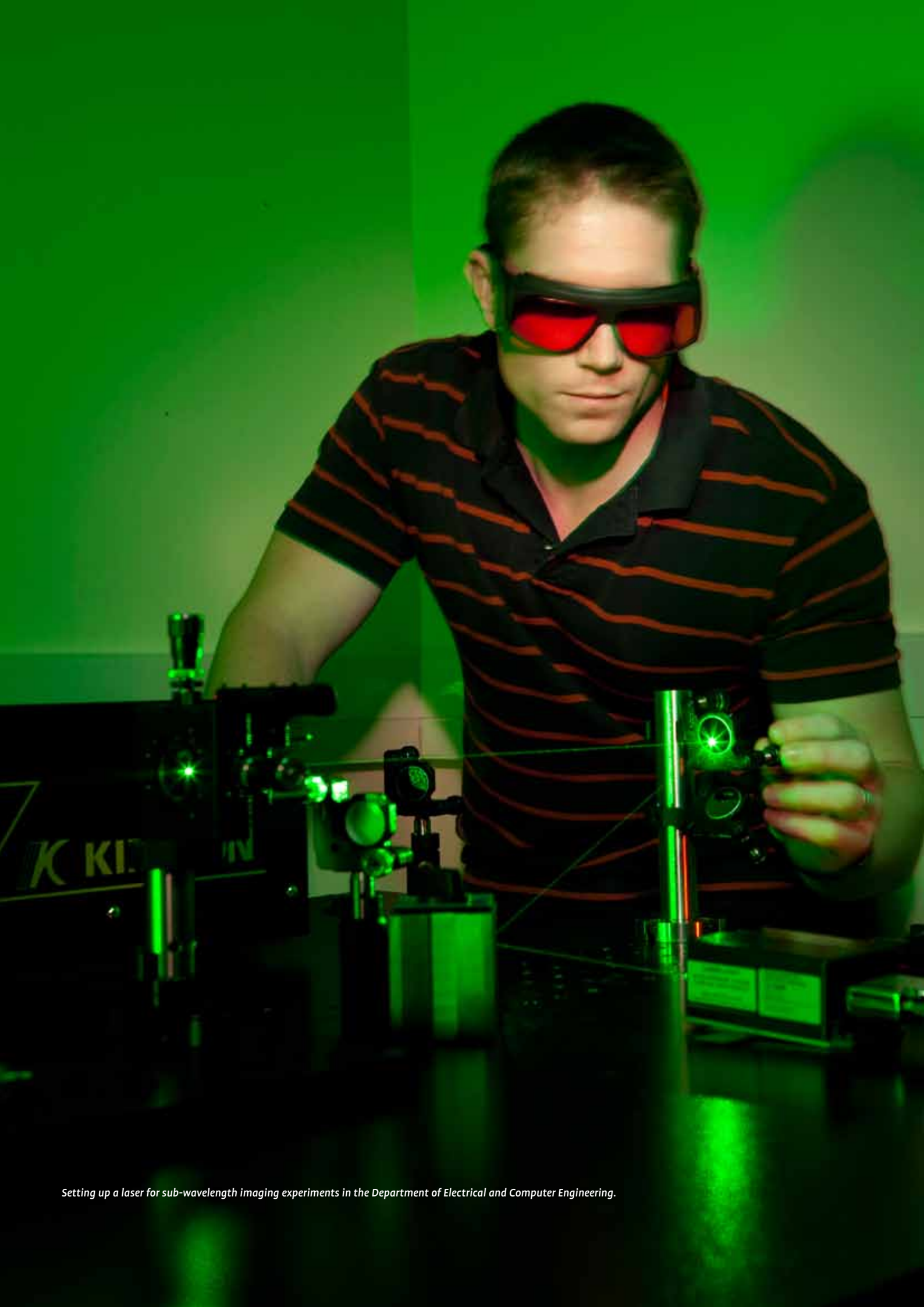
The University campus is located in the suburb of Ilam and is attractively landscaped, with plenty of space to relax with friends between lectures. With some of the most modern facilities in the country, the campus has five libraries, computer suites with 24-hour access, lecture theatres, laboratories, studios, halls of residence and a host of student services and facilities, including cafés, bars, a health centre and pharmacy, recreation facilities, childcare facilities, shops, cashflow machines, postal services and an art gallery.

We have cutting-edge research facilities, including New Zealand's leading nano-technology laboratory; the Human Interface Technology Laboratory (HITLabNZ); the BlueFern, a High Performance Computing (HPC) facility (the first organisation in the Southern Hemisphere to have installed an IBM Blue Gene supercomputer). BlueFern is connected to the international research community via the new super high speed internet-style KAREN network that can carry data 20,000 times faster than a dial-up internet connection.

The University also operates field stations throughout the South Island of New Zealand, the sub-Antarctic Snares Islands and Antarctica, as well as New Zealand's premier astronomical research facility at Mount John, Tekapo. These facilities mean that UC offers research opportunities in the field that no other New Zealand university can match.

Many undergraduate courses in the field sciences and astronomy include field trips, giving you the chance to get out and explore the unique natural environment of the South Island as part of your studies

Breakthroughs in UC research which have captured international attention include the development of a robot which can walk on walls and ceilings, and on any surface; and the discovery of a new planet, significantly more Earth-like than any other planet yet discovered.



*Setting up a laser for sub-wavelength imaging experiments in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.*

# Study options at UC

Study Abroad is a great way to expand your academic horizons and get a taste of some exciting new subjects. Whether you're looking for key courses to credit to your degree back home, or a different flavour and cross-cultural experience, UC has a broad selection of courses to choose from.

At the University of Canterbury we offer a number of courses you're unlikely to come across anywhere else including Maori language and culture, Antarctic Studies and courses in New Zealand and Pacific literature, history and politics

Courses in applied sciences and astronomy may include field trips for a day or a week and biological sciences courses will often study New Zealand's unique flora and fauna and marine life. Whatever courses you choose, you'll study alongside Kiwi students.

As long as you meet prerequisite requirements you can normally take most undergraduate courses offered by any of UC's faculties.

A few areas have courses which are limited entry - go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/admissions/ltd\\_entry.shtml](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/admissions/ltd_entry.shtml) for details.

The Study Abroad fee is a one-price package that enables you to choose subjects across faculties, in order to put together a package of courses that best meets your study needs and interests. See page 13 for tuition fees and costs.

You'll find a list of UC courses offered in 2011 in the centre insert of this prospectus. Intending students should check the University website for up to date course information [www.canterbury.ac.nz](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz)

Before leaving home, check that your courses can be credited to your home university degree. Your university's Study Abroad office will be able to help you. UC's student advisors will assist with any further information you need.

## UC offers courses in the following subjects:

- Accounting
- American Studies
- Antarctic Studies
- Anthropology
- Art History and Theory
- Astronomy
- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Biosecurity
- Chemical and Process Engineering
- Chemistry
- Chinese
- Cinema Studies
- Civil Engineering
- Classics
- Communication Disorders
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Cultural Studies
- Economics
- Education
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Engineering
- English
- European Languages and Cultures
- European Union Studies
- Finance
- Forest Engineering
- Forestry
- French
- Geography
- Geology
- German
- Health Sciences
- History
- Human Services
- Information Systems
- Japanese
- Law
- Linguistics
- Management
- Management Science
- Māori and Indigenous Studies
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Media and Communication
- Music
- Natural Resources Engineering
- Pacific Studies
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Russian
- Social Work
- Sociology
- South Asia Studies
- Spanish
- Statistics
- Te Reo Māori (Māori language)
- Theatre and Film Studies

## Semesters

At the University of Canterbury courses are taught in Semester 1 (February–June), Semester 2 (July–November), or throughout the Whole Year (Semester 1 and Semester 2, February–November).

Some courses are offered more than once in the same year, for example, in Semester 1 and in Semester 2. It's not possible for you to take just half of a Whole Year course if you are only attending UC for one semester.

When planning your courses, make sure you go to the UC website ([www.canterbury.ac.nz](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz)) and check that your courses are available in the semester you plan to study at UC.

## Course numbering and prerequisites

UC's courses are grouped into levels. Courses studied in the first year of a bachelor's degree are usually 100-level courses. Most Study Abroad students will be able to take any 100-level course at UC, with a few exceptions. The course code will begin with a '1'. For example, SPAN 101 is the code for a first-year Spanish course. Courses at 200-level begin with a '2' and 300-level courses begin with a '3'.

Most Study Abroad students will be able to take any 100-level paper at UC. However, depending on the subject selected, many 200-level and 300-level courses may require prior study. If you have not completed sufficient previous study in



One of UC's largest lecture halls.

that subject at your home institution you may not be permitted to enrol in that course.

It is important to note that Arts, Commerce and Science degrees at UC are three-year programmes and therefore 300-level courses are the most advanced undergraduate courses offered in these areas. Arts, Commerce and Science 400-level courses are postgraduate courses only open to graduate-level students.

Professional degrees such as Engineering, Forestry and Social Work are four-year programmes and 400-level courses in these subjects may be available to Study Abroad students who have completed sufficient previous study.

The UC Study Abroad Coordinator can seek course pre-approval on your behalf if requested. You are welcome to submit a list of courses with your application for admission.

### Course points

UC students are required to obtain 360 points (credits) to complete a three-year bachelor's degree. The points value of each course is indicative of the workload of the course – the higher the points value, the greater the workload involved in the course. Most UC courses are either 15 points or multiples of 15 (eg, 30 or 45 points).

Under the terms of your New Zealand student visa you are required to be enrolled as a full-time student. At UC, this means you must enrol in at least 45 points per semester in order to be

classified as full-time. A standard workload is 60 points per semester. The maximum workload for a semester is 75 points.

For questions about how your UC course points will transfer to your home university degree, please consult with the Study Abroad office at your home university.

### Teaching

Most courses include 2-4 hours of lectures per week. You will also be expected to participate in tutorials, which are small discussion groups led by a teaching assistant. Some science courses will have mandatory laboratory classes, and may include field trips.

### Assessment

Assessment is by means of a combination of examination and coursework, and the proportion of each depends upon the particular course. Most courses have a final exam at the end of the course, which often accounts for 30-40% of the final grade. Most subjects have written assignments and/or laboratory work that needs to be turned in throughout the course.

A feature of university study in New Zealand is that you will be required to work independently – your professors won't be checking up on you to ensure you're completing the assignments. Be prepared for the difference. Just because you don't have an assignment due until the end of the semester doesn't mean that you shouldn't open a textbook for four weeks.



## Shane Ehrsam

### United States

Shane has always wanted to travel and see the world outside the US.

"I chose New Zealand because everything I had seen and heard showed that it is one of the most beautiful places on Earth and I also wanted to go to an English-speaking country."

Shane is from Tucson in Arizona, USA. He is studying Business at the Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. He found UC's Māori and International Marketing classes very interesting.

"I am able to see a different perspective on how the rest of the world views things. It's especially interesting in my International Marketing class trying to think like a Kiwi businessman and to take my business or product abroad to the rest of the world."

He says the people in Christchurch are hospitable and friendly.

"Most of all I love getting out into the countryside and seeing all of the beautiful sights that New Zealand has to offer. This country is very hiker and camper friendly."

"I'm already planning to return to New Zealand so that I can bring my friends and family with me to experience all that this amazing country has to offer."

# Accommodation

The University offers a variety of accommodation options. We will help you find the best option for you and recommend you arrange accommodation as early as possible to have the best chance of securing your preferred choice.

## UC Accommodation Student Village package

A special accommodation package, specifically designed for Study Abroad students, provides accommodation on-campus at the self-catered Ilam Apartments.

This package is available to all students coming on a University-approved Study Abroad programme. To be eligible, students must apply by 1 December for the first semester (February start) or by 1 May for the second semester (July start).

To apply go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/international/study\\_abroad.shtml](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/international/study_abroad.shtml)

### **Ilam Apartments**

Home to students from New Zealand and all corners of the globe, the Ilam Apartments are ideal for individual students from 18 years of age.

Life in the apartments is fun and exciting. Their goal is to be your 'home away from home'. They offer as many experiences as possible to enhance your academic, personal and social well being. You will be sure to make friends for life.

The apartments provide an independent, secure lifestyle within the University community. Residents have their own fully-furnished bedroom with internet access and shared kitchen, living area, and bathroom facilities. Residents also have the option to purchase a full meal plan or casual meals at the nearby University Hall dining room.

This accommodation package offers excellent value and is the most hassle-free option for Study Abroad students. However this option is not mandatory.

For more information go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/international/study\\_abroad.shtml](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/international/study_abroad.shtml)



*A student bedroom in Ilam Apartments.*

Students on a full-year Study Abroad programme (February–November) also have the option of applying for a place in another hall of residence.

Students who do not wish to take this package offer may apply for homestay (private board) or rent privately off-campus (see below).

## Other Halls of Residence

Students on a full-year Study Abroad programme (February–November) may choose to apply for one of UC's other halls of residence.

All halls of residence are located a few minutes' walk from campus facilities and are comfortable, friendly and reasonably priced. Hall life is fun, exciting, challenging and a great opportunity to make new friends.

For details about each hall of residence, including the costs and how to apply, go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/halls](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/halls)

For general information on all accommodation options and the application due dates, go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/international](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/international)

If you apply after the due date we cannot guarantee that you will get your first choice, but you can be sure you will be living in high quality housing, wherever it might be.

## Homestay (private board)

Living in a homestay means you live with a Kiwi family in their home and are treated as one of the family.

Homestays are available throughout Christchurch in a variety of homes, offering a wide range of living situations, from families with children to single people living by themselves.

A weekly board fee of NZ\$240 provides you with:

- a fully furnished room (including desk, chair, good lighting, storage, bed and adequate bedding, and heating)
- three meals per day
- bathroom and laundry facilities
- power and telephone rental (toll calls and some internet charges are extra depending on usage).

There is also an initial placement fee of NZ\$330.

For more information go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/homestay.shtml](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/homestay.shtml)



Above: A student common room in Ilam Apartments.  
Below: A typical student flat (house) located off-campus.

## Private renting in houses or flats (apartments)

Private renting means sharing a house or flat off-campus with other students. You are all responsible for paying the bills, cooking meals and doing other household chores.

Depending on the size, quality and location, rents for a single student room in a house or flat in Christchurch, with shared bathroom and kitchen facilities, range from around NZ\$110 upwards per room per week, plus 'expenses' (eg, power and phone).

If you choose this type of accommodation for your stay in New Zealand, you will need to arrive early to allow time to find your own room or property. Be prepared to stay in temporary accommodation (eg, a motel or backpackers hostel) for up to two weeks. Ensure that you view the property personally before signing any agreement.

Please note that many properties around the university area have 52 week leases, so if you are coming for only one semester, be prepared to live a little further away from the University campus.

The Accommodation Office maintains an online student database called Student Rent: [www.studentrent.co.nz](http://www.studentrent.co.nz). For other property search resources go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/flatting](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/accom/flatting)

## Free airport pickup

If you are arriving in New Zealand for the first time and are intending to study for at least one semester ie February-July or July-December, the University can arrange to have you picked up from the airport and delivered to your accommodation. This service is free but must be booked at least a week prior to your departure.

For more information and to book this service go to [accommodation@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:accommodation@canterbury.ac.nz)

## Living expenses

Living expenses will vary depending upon your accommodation and lifestyle choices. We recommend that you budget for between NZ\$6,000–7,000 for a semester (NZ\$12,000 –14,000 per year), excluding airfares and tuition.

A lot depends on how long you choose to stay in New Zealand. The teaching semester is about four months; your student visa six months. Some students choose to go straight home after finishing their studies at UC in order to start their next semester back home; other students use the time to explore the country. We strongly recommend the latter – but you will need to budget for transport, activities, and more expensive accommodation during that time.

During your studies, you may find some everyday things more expensive in New Zealand, others less expensive. Living costs in Christchurch are generally moderate, but it all depends on how you choose to live.

Textbooks and stationery are expensive in New Zealand. Textbook costs will vary depending on the selected course. As a guide, for a single semester you should budget between NZ\$400–600 for textbooks and stationery.

Engineering, Forestry and Geology students should expect to pay up to NZ\$500 per semester for extra costs such as supplies, practical courses and field trips.



## Mallory Rubin United States

Mallory Rubin hails from the University of Denver, USA.

"I wanted to study abroad to experience a new culture, gain some independence, and see a beautiful part of the world very far from home. New Zealand was a perfect fit because of its amazing scenery, rich Māori history, and 'sweet as' mentality."

She found the 'Tradition in Māori History' course very interesting.

"The Māori worldview is so different from what I am used to as an American – it bridges together civic and religious systems, which Westerners, myself included, typically consider to be entirely distinct. I was just blown away by the richness of the culture as well."

Mallory thoroughly enjoyed the student lifestyle at UC.

"Living in Ilam Apartments was ideal. It was so nice to have everything set up for me before coming out. But the best part of Ilam was the people. I loved my flatmates. We got along really well, and even started a tradition of a weekly flat dinner cooked by one person to highlight the food from his/her home country. We also took hikes (or, in Kiwi lingo, 'tramps')."

# Student services

## Support services

At UC we are committed to helping you succeed in your studies. The International Orientation programme, held at the start of each semester, will introduce you to UC and the support services available to international students.

The Student Support team provide caring and friendly assistance to all international students on-campus. They can provide advice about adjustment and transition, illness/injury/aegrotats, disputes, accommodation issues, insurance, immigration, academic issues and any other concerns.

For more information go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/support](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/support)

## Students' Association

UC has the most socially and politically active students' association in the country, and one with the most generous community spirit.

The Students' Association (UCSA) is 100% owned and operated by students. It supports a huge range of clubs and organises regular festivals and on-campus entertainment. This means that there are plenty of social and recreational activities for you to choose from when you take a break from studying.

The Orientation Festival at the start of the academic year features premium entertainment and awesome social events. Throughout the year there are end of term parties, lunchtime concerts, an inter-hall ball and Graduation Ball. The end of lectures Tea Party is one of the highlights of the year.

UC clubs cover almost every sporting, recreational, academic and cultural interest imaginable – there are more than 95 to choose from. Clubs Day takes place twice a year (February and July). Outdoor activity clubs (kayaking, skiing, backpacking, hiking and mountaineering) are a great way of quickly getting into the countryside with people who know where to go. Social, sports and religious clubs are a great way to pursue your special interests and to meet Kiwi students.

For more information go to [www.ucsa.org.nz](http://www.ucsa.org.nz)



*UC's central library and quad.*

## UC Library

The University of Canterbury Library has a collection of more than 1.8 million items and provides access to more than 35,000 periodicals in paper or electronic format. The UC Library's holdings compare favourably with many larger international universities. The Library holds a number of unique resources that are being digitised to support enhanced access to many of its special collections and photographs.

Electronic resources including books, journals and reference sources, plus the print resources can be located using the Library MultiSearch discovery tool on the library home page, which can also be utilised on mobile devices.

For more information and to search the Library catalogue go to <http://library.canterbury.ac.nz>

## Recreation Centre

For those who enjoy exercising through sport, UC Sport & Recreation operates a number of sport leagues (social, social-competitive and competitive) as well as the Sport Science Centre for higher level athlete testing and conditioning.

For those who enjoy exercising at the gym, UC Sport & Recreation also operates the very popular student gym – the UC RecCentre. It's conveniently located on campus, and has all the amenities you'd enjoy at a commercial gym and more, at a fraction of the price.

Most services are included when you purchase a membership – cardio equipment, weights, general exercise programmes, group fitness (including Zumba), plus there is a sports hall for casual basketball and a rock climbing wall. There is a separate fee for some extra services, for example, spin, squash, personal trainers, casual badminton court hire, ball/racquet/towel hire and sport science testing.

For more information and membership fees go to [www.reccentre.canterbury.ac.nz/](http://www.reccentre.canterbury.ac.nz/)



UC Sport & Recreation operates the very popular student gym.

## UC Health Centre

All students can access high quality medical and counselling services at the campus Health Centre. It is a Royal NZ College of General Practitioners Cornerstone Accredited Practice.

Services include full doctor services (eg, emergency care and accident care, medical consultations, minor surgery, travel advice, medicals, specialist referrals), nurse clinics, counselling from expert counsellors, physiotherapy services, and dietitian services.

For more information about the Health Centre's services, opening times and charges, go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/healthcentre](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/healthcentre)

Please note most international students are not entitled to publicly funded health services while in New Zealand. For this reason, all international students must have appropriate and current medical and travel insurance approved before they can enrol and study at the University of Canterbury (see page 14 for details).

## Getting to/from campus

For information on all the different options for getting to/from UC and around the city go to [www.sustain.canterbury.ac.nz/transport](http://www.sustain.canterbury.ac.nz/transport)

Cycling is a low-cost and convenient alternative to the car, particularly if you live within a few kilometres of University. Cycling in Christchurch is often a very practical way to travel, especially since the climate is temperate, the city's terrain is flat, and there are many designated cycle routes. Cycling facilities available on campus include secure stands (electronically accessed, video surveillance-monitored bike parks), lockers, showers for people cycling a long distance, free basic bike checks and city cycle maps.

There are about seven bus routes that directly service the University from other city suburbs. The regular cash bus fare is \$2.80 per trip for most of Christchurch (excludes the Airport and Rangiora services) with free transfer for up to two hours, or you can catch any number of buses within Christchurch all day for only \$4.20 with the popular Metrocard.

For bus route information and timetable information go to [www.metroinfo.org.nz](http://www.metroinfo.org.nz).



## Katrin Schmahl Germany

Katrin paid a short visit to New Zealand after she finished high school. She was so impressed with the South Island that she decided to return for a longer period at a later stage. The opportunity to return presented itself while she was studying toward a Civil Engineering qualification in Germany. "I chose a couple of interesting courses about earthquakes, for example design of piles and buildings and their behavior during earthquakes".

Katrin was really impressed with the facilities at UC, especially the computer facilities and the well stocked libraries, with up to date books and extensive references.

"A highlight for me was that the lecturers and staff at the University were friendly and welcoming. Even if you are a student they treat you with respect. I got the impression that students come first".

Katrin really enjoyed the New Zealand lifestyle and was impressed by the friendliness of the people. "I learned a lot about the culture and behavior of Kiwis and I made a lot of Kiwi friends. Of course I got to know a couple of German students too. I really enjoyed my stay in Christchurch and I will miss it and all the people I got to know."



# Study Abroad application process

In general, you are eligible to apply to study abroad at the University of Canterbury if you meet the following criteria.

- You have completed at least one year of university study at a recognised university or college.
- You have a grade point average of 2.8 or higher (on a scale of 4), or a B average or higher.
- You meet the University's English language requirements.

Students who are not native English speakers normally need to provide an acceptable score in a standard English language test.

Students from Germany, Norway, or Sweden with a pass at a specified level in their final year of high school study may be exempted from a language test.

For more information about English language requirements go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/admissions/international/english.shtml](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/admissions/international/english.shtml)

## Planning your courses

Firstly you need to research the UC website to locate suitable courses that are offered in the semester you wish to study at UC.

You'll find a list of courses offered in 2011 in the centre insert of this prospectus. This is only a guide, as course offerings may change from year to year.

You should check the UC website for the most up to date course information: [www.canterbury.ac.nz/courses](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/courses)

Secondly you need to check with your home institution that the courses you want to take at UC are acceptable for credit back home. You may need to provide print-outs of course descriptions.

Thirdly you don't need to provide a list of your UC courses before we grant you admission. However, if you need confirmation before you leave home that you'll be eligible to take a course here at UC, we are happy to seek course pre-approval for you.

We strongly suggest that you bring a copy of your most recent transcript to UC and have it handy during enrolment, in case you need to talk with a specific department about your selected courses.

Please note that some courses will require you to have the necessary pre-requisites before enrolling or may have limited spaces available.

Your course choices are flexible. If you arrive at UC and find you are in an unsuitable class, it will still be possible to make course changes for a limited time, without incurring an academic penalty. The key thing to remember is you must check with your home university that your new courses will be credited to your degree back home.

## Application dates

Applications for first semester study (Feb-June) should be received by 1 November.

Applications for second semester study (July-November) should be received by 1 May.

Late applications will be processed but you may not have time to make all the necessary preparations for your travel if you apply after these dates.

Remember that the academic year in New Zealand is usually the reverse of the northern hemisphere year. Our long summer vacation runs November to February. The US or European first semester takes place at approximately the same time of year as Canterbury's second semester and vice versa.

## How to apply

Fill out the application form in the centre insert of this publication. You must post it to us (see form for address). You must include:

- an original or certified true copy of your academic transcript
- a copy of the personal details page of your passport
- English Language test scores, if English is not your first language.

We will send you an email acknowledging receipt of your application.

Within a few weeks we will again contact you via email to let you know if your application has been successful. We will then post you an information package. This will include an original Offer of Place letter (which you will need to apply for a visa) and information about enrolment, accommodation and international student orientation.

## Tuition fees

In 2011 the Study Abroad tuition fee is NZ\$11,100 per semester (at the time of publication, the 2012 fees had not been set). This allows you to take courses across faculties. This is a flat programme fee – fees are not charged per course.

Please note however that some courses may have an additional compulsory course cost (such as a field trip) and this cost will be additional to the flat Study Abroad tuition fee. Also all students pay a Student Services Levy (\$307.50 per semester in 2011).

For more information about tuition fees go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/enrol/fees](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/enrol/fees)

## Financial assistance

The University of Canterbury is offering a significant scholarship programme for Study Abroad students in 2012. The **UC International Mobility Inbound Study Abroad Scholarship**, worth up to NZ\$5,000, is available to at least 50 full-fee paying Study Abroad students who are enrolled in a full-time degree programme at a recognised institution outside of New Zealand, and who wish to study at the University of Canterbury for one semester or one year under UC's Study Abroad programme.

Please note the scholarship is not open to New Zealand citizens or permanent residents.

For further details please check the website. [www.canterbury.ac.nz/international/studyab](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/international/studyab)

# Student visa/permit and medical insurance

## Student visa/permit

When your application is approved we will issue you with an Offer of Place letter, which you will need before you can apply for a visa.

You will need to apply for and receive your student visa before travelling to New Zealand. Information on how to apply for a student visa and the location of the nearest office of Immigration New Zealand can be found at [www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/stream/study](http://www.immigration.govt.nz/migrant/stream/study)

When you arrive in New Zealand on a student visa, Immigration New Zealand will issue you a student permit at the airport as you pass through Immigration. In order to fulfil the requirements of your student visa you must be a full-time student. As a study abroad student you are not eligible to work while in New Zealand.

Full details of visa and permit requirements, advice on rights to employment in New Zealand while studying, and reporting requirements are available through Immigration New Zealand, and can be viewed on their website at [www.immigration.govt.nz](http://www.immigration.govt.nz)

## Medical and travel insurance

**All International Students must have appropriate and current Medical and Travel Insurance approved before they can enrol and study at the University of Canterbury. This is a requirement of the New Zealand Government.**

If students have not purchased appropriate insurance in advance, they will be required to purchase the default insurance policy (*Studentsafe-University*) at enrolment.

**Note: Every student intending to enrol at the University is covered by the Studentsafe-University policy from the time they leave home (up to 31 days prior to enrolment), even though they only pay their premium when they arrive.**

In order that we can be confident that students are fully protected and cared for during their travel and time in New Zealand, the University has specific minimum requirements that must be covered in the insurance policy.

In addition to *Studentsafe-University*, there are a number of other approved policies. Details of these policies and the minimum requirements can be found on the University website at [www.canterbury.ac.nz/intstud/insurance](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/intstud/insurance)

This site also contains a list of overseas policies that have been assessed, and either approved or disallowed. If students wish to purchase insurance before they leave home, they must either present a policy that is on our "approved policy" list or they need to send full details of their policy to [international@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:international@canterbury.ac.nz) at least four weeks before arrival to be assessed.

### **Eligibility for health services**

Most international students are not entitled to publicly funded health services while in New Zealand. If you receive medical treatment during your visit, you may be liable for the full costs of that treatment. Full details on entitlements to publicly funded health services are available through the Ministry of Health, and can be viewed on their website at [www.moh.govt.nz](http://www.moh.govt.nz)

### **Accident insurance**

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

For more information go to [www.acc.co.nz](http://www.acc.co.nz)

## Code of Practice

The University of Canterbury has agreed to observe and be bound by the *Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students* published by the Ministry of Education.

Copies of the Code can be downloaded from the New Zealand Ministry of Education website at [www.minedu.govt.nz/Educationsectors/InternationalEducation](http://www.minedu.govt.nz/Educationsectors/InternationalEducation)



## Julie Holst Denmark

Julie comes from Denmark and the time she spent at the University of UC lived up to all her expectations.

"There was a wide variety of interesting courses to choose from and I particularly enjoyed the interaction with lecturers and fellow students in my tutorial classes."

She found the campus very spacious and student friendly.

"The facilities at UC, including the computer rooms, the libraries and the recreation centre, are excellent and it is only a 5-10 minute walk from the on-campus accommodation to the lecture theatres."

Weekends were spent with friends enjoying the outdoor club activities.

"You get plenty of opportunities to explore the beauty of New Zealand on tramping and kayaking trips".

She would love to return to Christchurch in the future.

"I recommend the University of Canterbury to anyone who wants to study abroad."



*The alpine resort town of Queenstown.*

# Location



## New Zealand



Approximate flight times to/from Christchurch	
Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Gold Coast	3 hours 30 minutes
Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Tokyo	10 hours
Other international routes via Auckland*	
Pacific Islands (Fiji, Rarotonga, Tonga, Samoa)	3–5 hours
Honolulu	8 hours 40 minutes
Los Angeles	12 hours
New York, Dubai	19 hours
Amsterdam	23 hours

\*From Auckland it is only a 1 hour 20 minute flight to Christchurch.



*Snowboarding in the Southern Alps*

For more information about studying at UC  
get in touch with the UC Contact Centre:

Telephone: +64 3 364 2459

Email: [international@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:international@canterbury.ac.nz)

University of Canterbury

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New Zealand

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