

# Master of Science (MSc) Postgraduate Diploma in Science (PGDipSc)

## Key facts about the programme

- 1 Pathway into more advanced study
- 2 Conduct independent and original research
- 3 More than 20 specialist subjects to choose from



## What does this programme cover?

The MSc and PGDipSc offer the opportunity to undertake in-depth study in a special interest subject. There is a range of subjects available to study.

- Antarctic Studies
- Astronomy
- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Biotechnology
- Cellular and Molecular Biology
- Chemistry
- Child and Family Psychology
- Computer Science
- Data Science
- Ecology
- Economics
- Environmental Science
- Finance
- Geography
- Geology
- Industrial and Organisational Psychology
- Mathematics

- Medical Physics
- Microbiology
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Psychology
- Statistics
- Thesis only – Disaster Risk and Resilience, Engineering Geology, Geospatial Science and Technology, Speech and Language Sciences

The diploma is coursework-based. This qualification is an ideal pathway into more advanced study. UC offers a number of scientific master's programmes as well as a Doctor of Philosophy. Students who take part in the MSc and PhD conduct independent research through their studies.

## What are the entry requirements?

- A relevant bachelor's degree with a UC equivalent B average
- Dean of Science approval

## Special entry conditions

Undergraduate field courses normally required.

## AT A GLANCE

### Start Dates

February  
July

### Months to complete

MSc ..... 24 months  
PGDipSc ..... 12 months

These timeframes are for fulltime study. There may be the opportunity to study part-time.

### Features

Fieldwork ..... Yes  
Labs ..... Yes

### Scholarship

For more information on scholarships go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/get-started/scholarships/](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/get-started/scholarships/)



### Student Profile

“I love working with plants and microbes and learning about the cool techniques used to study various aspects of plant physiology and molecular biology. Plant biotechnology uses cutting-edge technology in researching plants that are genetically engineered or modified especially for high yields, stress tolerance and disease management.”

#### Anish Shah

Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences  
Master of Science in Biotechnology  
PhD student, Lincoln University



### Graduate Profile

“Whilst living in Aceh (in Indonesia) I experienced the rebuild of a region rife with corruption but also full of passionate people willing to make bold choices for their country. This inspired me to gain internationally recognised skills transferable to the geothermal energy sector – an industry with huge potential for sustainable resource use worldwide.”

#### Joanna Pawson

Bachelor of Science in Geology  
Master of Science in Geology  
Graduate Engineering Geologist, Coffey Geotechnics

### What careers can this lead to?

Postgraduate study can bring many career benefits including higher starting salaries and progression rates. Science graduates are highly employable and ideally suited to the knowledge economy. They have general and specialised subject knowledge and are also experts in problem solving, teamwork and communication.

PGDipSc graduates go on to careers in:

- Business
- Education
- Environmental science
- Health
- Industry
- Research

### Average starting salary

- \$60,000 with master’s degree

### Average salary by year 5

- \$85,000 with master’s degree

### Enrolment information

#### How to apply

Apply online through myUC:  
<https://myuc.canterbury.ac.nz>

#### When to enrol

Applications need to be received five weeks before the programme starts.

#### Who to contact

Faculty of Science  
T: +64 3 369 4141  
E: [science@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:science@canterbury.ac.nz)  
[www.canterbury.ac.nz/science](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/science)

### Learn from the best

UC is the top university in the country for the proportion of researchers that teach, so you will be taught by scientists who are at the forefront of advances in their field. Learn from internationally recognised experts in biology, computing, data science, geography, linguistics, mathematics and more. We collaborate with a range of specialist and internationally recognised organisations including:

- Centre of Excellence in Aquaculture and Marine Ecology (CEAME)
- Food, Policy and Wellbeing Research Cluster
- Gateway Antarctica



### Purpose-built facilities

UC’s laboratories, research centres, and field stations are internationally renowned. Added to this is the Ernest Rutherford building, which embraces the Ngāi Tahu cultural narrative of Whatukura in its design, and ensures students are at the forefront of contemporary science. Learning and research spaces in the centre have state-of-the-art equipment, high-tech computing systems and technology.