

2026



PŪAO STAR

ON-CAMPUS

**courses for secondary
school students**



Are you a math STAR?

Explore MATH198, our new zero fee, zero credit course aimed at students who want to push beyond high school maths and start university with confidence.



Important dates 2026

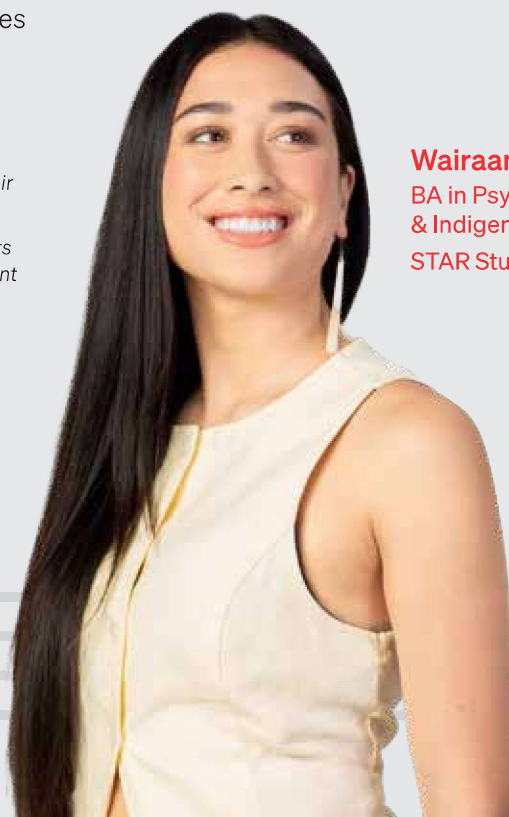
9 February	Applications close for Semester 1 (S1) and Whole Year (W) STAR courses
16 February	Semester 1 and Whole Year lectures start
8 – 20 June	Exam period for Semester 1 courses
6 July	Applications close for Semester 2 (S2) STAR courses
13 July	Semester 2 lectures start and Whole Year lectures resume
27 October – 7 November	Exam period for Semester 2 and Whole Year courses

For more key dates, go to www.canterbury.ac.nz/key-dates

Front cover te reo translation: Pūao means 'to dawn', reflecting that the students coming to UC from their secondary schools are at the dawn of their tertiary education journey.

Front cover image: is a simplified version of Haehae moana or braided rivers design. Haehae moana are representative of our unique natural environment here in the Waitaha region and symbolise the importance of mahinga kai, sustainable food and natural resource gathering practises, of the iwi Ngāi Tahu. The haehae lines used here were traditionally used in whakairo and tell of whakapapa and pūrākau — traditions, histories and stories. Haehae means to etch, cut, carve. Whakarare means to turn or fall and are represented in this design where the haehae lines cross over themselves.

Information is correct as at October 2025, but is subject to change.



Wairaamia

BA in Psychology, Māori
& Indigenous Studies
STAR Student, 2021



Pūao ki UC | STAR at UC

The Pūao | STAR programme at the University of Canterbury gives capable secondary school students the opportunity to enrol in first-year university courses while completing their high school studies.

It's a chance to experience university-level learning, explore potential pathways, and connect with like-minded peers.

Who can enrol?

The Pūao | STAR programme is intended for students in Year 12 or 13 who have met the literacy and numeracy requirements of NCEA University Entrance (or equivalent).

This includes international students studying at a New Zealand secondary school as well as home-schooled students.

What does a Pūao | STAR course involve?

The majority of on-campus courses listed in this brochure are regular first year university courses suitable for Pūao | STAR students. This means Pūao | STAR students attend lectures, labs, and tutorials for these courses on campus, alongside university students.

Some courses (MATH198, ECON199, COSC131, and COSC122) are exclusively for Pūao | STAR students, with lectures scheduled after school for students from secondary schools across Christchurch to attend. These courses cover the same content as their non-STAR equivalents.

Most Pūao | STAR courses run over one semester (approximately four months). Each course has a workload of around eight hours a week, including time spent in class, reading the online course materials, working on assignments, and preparing for assessments.

Detailed course information is available online at www.canterbury.ac.nz/star

What will it cost?

The STAR course fee for international and domestic students in 2026 is \$671 per 15 points.

While most of our STAR students are (partially) funded by Ministry of Education STAR funding, students at independent schools and home-schooled students are also able to enrol in the STAR programme, as long as course costs are met through other means.

How to apply

- 1. Fill out the STAR Consent Form** (available at www.canterbury.ac.nz/star) and get it signed by your parent/caregiver and your school's STAR Coordinator.
- 2. Get a copy of your passport or New Zealand birth certificate certified** (signed and dated) by your School Principal, a Justice of the Peace (JP) or a solicitor.
- 3. Create a myUC account** at myuc.canterbury.ac.nz and submit an application for the STAR programme. Upload a scan of your completed STAR Consent Form and your certified identity document.

Call 0800 827 748 if you have any problems completing your application.

2026 Akoranga ki UC

On-campus courses

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
ACCT102	Accounting and Financial Information	S1	S2	Students will develop an understanding of the structure and functions of general purpose financial reports from a reader's perspective. They will be introduced to current non-financial reporting issues such as the challenge of sustainability within business and society. Students will gain an introductory understanding of management accounting and business finance.
ACCT103	Accounting and Taxation: An Introduction	S1	S2	The course introduces taxation and accounting in the context of service, retail, manufacturing, tourism, farming and construction businesses. It includes the rudiments of bookkeeping and the preparation of reports about cash flows, profits and accumulating capital and wealth.
ANTA102	Antarctica: The Cold Continent	S1		This introductory course explores the evolution of the Antarctic continent, the dynamics of polar ice, the drivers of weather and climate in Antarctica, the circulation of the Southern Ocean, astronomy and human interaction with the polar region including the history of exploration and intriguing legal issues.
ANTH108	Witchcraft, Magic and The Dead	S1		This course aims to challenge taken-for-granted assumptions about witchcraft, magic and the dead, as well as introducing students to key anthropological concerns such as ritual, symbolism and religion.
ASTR109	The Cosmos: Birth and Evolution	S1		In this course, you will explore how our societies connect to our place in the cosmos, build your own personal awareness of how earth and sky relate, and gain an understanding of astronomy, astrophysics and planetary science, beginning with our Solar System and expanding outward to visit exotic stars, remote planets, and distant galaxies.
BIOL111	Cellular Biology and Biochemistry	S1		This is a foundation course in cellular biology integrating the principles of molecular biology and biochemistry with the structure and function of plant, animal and microbial cells. Cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying cell growth/death cycles, cancer and genetic disorders will also be considered.
BIOL112	Ecology, Evolution and Conservation		S2	This is an integrated course embracing the principles of ecology, behaviour, genetics, evolution and conservation biology.
BIOL113	Diversity of Life	S1		This course provides an overview of the diversity, evolution, structure and function of animals, plants and microbes.
BIOL116	Human Biology		S2	In this course, you'll gain a comprehensive understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the human body. You'll uncover the intricate systems that keep us alive and functioning while connecting this knowledge to real-world applications.
CHCH101	Engaging Communities through Social Innovation	S1		This course partners with communities to work collaboratively to affect meaningful change. This course would suit those students with an interest in active citizenship, social activism, community engagement, and social innovation with our local or global communities.
CHEM111	Chemical Principles and Processes	S1	S2	Students should have at least 14 NCEA Level 3 Chemistry credits. This course covers atoms and the periodic table; chemical bonding; reduction and oxidation reactions; properties of gases; introduction to thermodynamics; kinetics; chemical equilibrium; Gibbs energy and the second law of thermodynamics; aqueous chemistry; acid-base equilibrium.
CHEM112	Structure and Reactivity in Chemistry and Biochemistry		S2	Students should have at least 14 NCEA Level 3 Chemistry credits. This course covers structure, isomerism, stereochemistry, synthesis, and reaction mechanisms in organic chemistry; transition metal chemistry and electrochemistry.

S1 = Semester One; S2 = Semester Two; W = Whole Year

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
CHEM114	Foundations of Chemistry	S1		Students should not enrol in this course if they have Level 3 Chemistry credits. This course has an emphasis on the properties of materials and biological systems. Atoms, molecules, mole concept, chemical equations, stoichiometry; electron configuration, bonding; molecular structure; energy changes and kinetic factors in chemical reactions; aqueous chemistry; introductory organic chemistry.
CHIN151	Chinese Language 1-A	S1		A beginner's level course, focusing on the four basic language skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening, designed for students with little or no previous knowledge of the Chinese language.
CHIN152	Chinese Language 1-B		S2	This course follows CHIN151 still focusing on the four basic language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course teaches students to conduct basic conversations and read and write simple texts in Chinese, while developing a foundational understanding of Chinese culture.
CHIN155	Understanding China		S2	This course provides a basic understanding of China and Chinese culture through selected topical issues about China. The course will be taught in English; all prescribed readings and assessments (written and spoken) are in English.
CHIN251	Chinese Language 2-A	S1		This course follows CHIN152 still focusing on the four basic language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course is a Chinese language course teaching how to conduct daily and social conversations, and to read and write texts in Chinese at an early intermediate level, with an adequate cultural understanding of China.
CHIN252	Chinese Language 2-B		S2	This course follows CHIN251 still focusing on the four basic language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This is a Chinese language course, teaching how to communicate in Chinese in social and semi-formal situations at an intermediate level, with an adequate cultural understanding of China.
CINE102	The Backpacker's Guide to World Cinema		S2	This course identifies the formal, stylistic and thematic concerns that are shared, despite their apparent diversity, by a cross section of contemporary films. Students will analyse a selection of notable films from around the world that revise, resist or reject the standard practices or themes of mainstream cinema.
CINE104	The Oscar for Best Picture: The Envelope Please!	S1		This course will trace the trajectory of the Academy Awards. It will provide a concentrated, thumbnail history of American Cinema, which challenges students to consider and question the formal criteria (cinematography, acting, sound, editing) upon which critical judgement is based. It will introduce students to the canonical classics of American Cinema, inviting them to explore diverse film genres.
CLAS120	People, Places and Histories of the Graeco-Roman World	S1		This course will survey events in antiquity from Homer through to the Roman Emperor Constantine. On the way we will explore the world of fifth century Athens, gaining an insight into the society that established democracy and move on to appreciate Alexander's campaigns and the formation of the Hellenistic kingdoms after his death. We will also turn to the west of the Mediterranean Sea and investigate the development of Rome from a small town to the capital of a large Empire, its constitutional transformations and the social impact of those changes on people's sense of place and identity.
CLAS122	Myth, Power and Identity in the Graeco-Roman World		S2	In this course students will consider how the Greeks and the Romans thought of themselves and others in their mythology and social power structures. Students will gain an understanding of ancient cosmic world-views, gender issues, colonisation and identity in Archaic and Classical Greece and Augustan Rome, and the relevance of such ideas now. Students will read, analyse and interpret ancient literary texts (selections from epic, tragedy, etc.) and material culture (art and architecture) that depict Greek and Roman myths as well as expressing ancient political and social views.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
CLAS135	Beginners' Greek		S2	This course provides an introduction to Ancient Greek grammar and to the reading of Ancient Greek texts, building on from the material learnt in CLAS151. Students, in this course, concentrate on Ancient Greek only, learning the language of fifth century Athens through the reading of texts. The dialect we learn is Attic Greek, which, when learnt, will enable access to other Greek dialects including New Testament Greek.
CLAS145	Beginners' Latin		S2	An introduction to Latin grammar and to reading Latin, following on from CLAS151.
CLAS151	Greek and Latin for Absolute Beginners	S1		This course introduces Greek and Latin grammar to students by way of English grammar. At the end of the course students will understand the most important basic grammatical concepts in Greek and Latin and will have a working vocabulary of about 75 words in each language. They will be prepared to continue more intensive study in Greek and/or Latin.
COMS101	Media and Society	S1		This course explores the relationship between society and media - including social media, print, broadcasting, and all kinds of online spaces. We will explore topics like media audiences, technologies, ownership and work; the frames of representation, power, and identity; and analytical tools like semiotics, discourse, and narrative. COMS101 is a stage one course that does not require any prior media study, but it builds on everything you have ever watched, listened to, interacted with, and produced.
COMS105	Public Communication		S2	The course introduces students to public communication, from social media posts to journalism to strategic communication and more. Students will learn writing and media planning skills, alongside classes discussing major public communication practices and classes studying the way those bring together different kinds of public. Emphasis will be placed on the representation of te ao Māori in different public communication practices and on how Māori and Pacific publics are convened.
COSC122	Introduction to Computer Science		S2	Students should have completed COSC131 first. This course is an introduction to Computer Science, including algorithms, complexity and data structures.
COSC131	Introduction to Programming for Engineers	S1		Students should have NCEA 14 Credits (18 strongly recommended) at level 3 Mathematics. COSC131 teaches the fundamentals of computer programming using the Python language and can be taken by students who have no previous programming background. Topics include expressions, assignment, selection and iteration, structured data (lists, dictionaries, tuples, arrays), functional decomposition, file processing, numerical computation with numpy, graph plotting with matplotlib and an introduction to object-oriented programming.
ECON104	Introduction to Microeconomics	S1	S2	Scarcity, exchange and trade. Market analysis and policy. Consumer choice theory. Theory of the firm. Imperfect competition. Externalities and public goods.
ECON105	Introduction to Macroeconomics	S1	S2	This course introduces students to the macro economy and how it evolved to where it is today. We examine economic variables and how rises and falls in these variables affect people and businesses. We investigate how government policies, decisions by households and firms, and changes in the world economy affect inflation, exchange rates, interest rates, unemployment, growth, poverty and inequality and other economic outcomes we care about.
EDUC101	Spark! The Art & Science of Learning		S2	In this course, we address how people learn as well as the social, political, and global contexts in which learning takes place. Together, we walk through the art and science of learning, including contemporary debates and discussions in anthropology, history, philosophy, sociology, and psychology. Through questions, we view learning from diverse perspectives to understand learning in Aotearoa New Zealand and elsewhere around the world.
EDUC102	Child and Adolescent Development		S2	This course establishes a foundation in theory, concepts, processes and factual knowledge of infant, child, and adolescent development within the context of family, school, and community. Students will acquire an understanding of the developmental processes that take place within and across physical, cognitive, emotional, and social domains, and their associations with developmental outcomes.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester	Course Description
EDUC103	Education, Culture and Society	S1	This course provides an introduction to foundational theories, concepts and processes in the study of education. The course explores theories about power, justice and fairness in society, with a particular focus on how they relate to education. It also examines what part factors such as class, genders and sexualities, disability, and race may play in maintaining unequal forms of education. An important feature of the course will be analysing the role played by education in the development of colonial relations between Māori and Pakeha, and how that continues to shape contemporary New Zealand society.
ENGL102	Great Works	S1	This course introduces students to university-level English by exploring in depth a sequence of works that have earned the label 'great' for some or all of the following reasons: because of their enduring, wide and deep cultural influence; because of the originality of their creative conception; because of the power of their language; because of the power and appeal of the stories they tell or the characters or images they contain.
ENVR101	Introduction to Environmental Science	S1	The course aims to build a knowledge platform and exposes students to the environmental problems and solutions of the modern era. Using an integrated approach across the chemical, biological, cultural and values/ethics aspects of environmental science, students will consider the problems and solutions across key topics including: Feeding the planet (Kai whenua and Kai Moana), Sustainable resource use and waste management, powering the planet, human health and environment, sustainable cities, and sustainable tourism.
EUR101	Global Europe	S1	What is the European Union? How important is it in Global Affairs? Why is the EU expanding? What lead to the BREXIT vote and what influence will it have? Through the use of traditional and online teaching methods, this course introduces students to the identity, structure and function of the EU, its key challenges and its role and impact on the world, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region.
FINC101	Personal Finance	S2	Personal financial literacy and decision making, including consumption and investment, debt, insurance, retirement and estate planning.
FREN121	French Language Acquisition: Beginners A	S1	This is an introductory course for students who have no previous knowledge of French. It is the first course in a sequence of six French language acquisition courses.
FREN122	French Language Acquisition: Beginners B	S2	This is the second course in a sequence of six French language acquisition courses. Students without the formal prerequisite, but with some previous knowledge of French should consult the STAR Coordinator to determine which course is the most appropriate.
FREN221	French Language Acquisition : Intermediate A	S1	This is the third course in a sequence of French language acquisition courses. Students without the formal prerequisite, but with some previous knowledge of French, should consult the STAR Coordinator to determine which course is the most appropriate.
FREN222	French Language Acquisition : Intermediate B	S2	This is the fourth course in a sequence of French language acquisition courses. Students without the formal prerequisite, but with some previous knowledge of French, should consult the STAR Coordinator to determine which course is the most appropriate.
GEOG106	Global Environmental Change	S2	An exploration of major environmental changes happening at the global scale. With a particular focus on climate, ice, freshwater, and ocean processes, we investigate how geospatial monitoring and other tools are used to address global environmental challenges. We look at how human activities are interacting with Earth systems, and aim to empower people to improve environmental and societal resilience at a range of scales.
GEOG110	People, Places and Environments	S1	This course draws on the insights of human geography to deepen your understanding of how people make places and shape environments. We examine the economic, social and cultural processes that create contemporary places and also consider their possible futures. Through practical work, you will learn some of the key methods and techniques available for describing and analysing how places change.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
GEOL101	Building Planet Earth: Fundamentals of Earth Science	S1		This introductory course aims to provide you with a basic understanding of how Earth and its materials have developed through deep time. In this course you will learn about the essential building blocks of Earth (minerals and rocks) and the processes that are responsible for how they form and change through time. In addition this course teaches you how to read the stories that the rocks are telling us and decipher key events in the evolution of life on Earth through the fossil record.
GEOL102	Environmental Earth System Science		S2	This course provides foundational knowledge, understanding and practical skills aligned to complex challenges of the modern era from an Earth Science perspective. The course will develop fundamental geologic skills including geoscientific data collection, analysis and visualisation, hazard analysis, spatial mapping, and written communication. Upon completion of this course, you will have acquired an appreciation for the role geoscience plays in creating, understanding and mitigating some of the most pressing issues facing humanity today.
GISCI01	Introduction to Spatial Data Science	S1		Spatial Data Science deals with the processing, manipulation, analysis and visualisation of spatial data in a variety of forms. Spatial data are fundamental to many geographical analyses and spatial data science draws strongly from key geographical concepts. This course provides a practical introduction to concepts and methods in data science for the analysis of spatial data. By completing the course, you will gain an understanding of the key concepts in spatial data and their collection, how to represent the environment and the world in spatial data, and the ability to apply basic spatial analysis techniques to geographic data using open source platforms such as R, QGIS, and Python.
GRMN151	Elementary German Language A	S1		This course is a German language course for beginners, i.e. students with no knowledge of German, based on the communicative approach.
GRMN152	Elementary German Language B		S2	This course is a German language course that follows on from GRMN 151 based on the communicative approach.
HIST128	New Zealand History from Waka to Weta		S2	From the arrival of the first peoples, to the successful creativity of Weta Workshops, this course introduces the essentials of New Zealand history according to the very latest scholarship. The course mixes wars, strikes, disease, guilt and apology with utopic visions and world-leading creativity and innovation. Major themes are Māori and Pakeha conflict and collaboration, the development and tensions of a 'new world' colonial nation, and New Zealand's changing place on the world stage.
HIST136	Revolutions and Revolutionaries	S1		This course explores the nature of revolutions and their role in shaping the modern world. After looking at various definitions of the term 'revolution', and a range of historical approaches to the study of revolutions, the course looks in turn at a series of case studies such as the American, French and Russian revolutions, and their causes, course and consequences.
HIST137	Modern World History	S1		The end of WWII and the beginning of the cold war is the time when Europe lost her empires in Africa and Asia and new nations like India and Israel were formed. This course focuses on post-war decolonisation and the making of new nations. It looks at the impact of communism and capitalism on Europe and Asia and on global politics. We study the way race, religion and competition for resources challenged fledgling democracies and the way that oil and other resources continue to shape post-cold war politics.
HLTH101	Introduction to Health Studies	S1		This course introduces students to the determinants of health in the context of Aotearoa New Zealand. Students will examine health and how it is viewed and experienced by different groups of people, including key influences and challenges to achieving [good] health. Measures to address health inequities, including the role of the health system, will be explored and examined.
HLTH102	Health Promotion		S2	This course will provide an understanding of the broad range of ways in which the health of populations or societies can be promoted. Through personal reflection and synthesis of course material, students will deepen their understanding of key health concepts. Students will learn to design health promotion approaches that aligns with epidemiological and life-course evidence.
HLTH106	Te Wero - Māori Health Issues and Opportunities		S2	This course introduces students to a selection of historical and contemporary Māori health content within a Treaty of Waitangi framework, to support robust analyses of Māori population health issues. Exploring what Māori health was and is, students will be challenged to consider the promise of Māori health and its significance for current and future Aotearoa New Zealand.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
HLTH111	Global Health	S1		Global health challenges cross international borders and responses require international cooperation. In this course we explore (1) the key and emerging challenges and opportunities facing global health, (2) major public health developments that have improved health outcomes for all and (3) identify how economic and political processes have shaped responses to global health problems.
HSRV103	Violence in Society		S2	This course will introduce students to the issue of violence in society and its impact on communities. The course will introduce the concept of structural violence and explore the links between interpersonal violence and structural violence. Key topics include economic violence, colonial violence, cultural violence, gendered violence, political violence and family violence.
HLTH121	Introduction to Health Education	S1		This course is designed to be an introduction to Health Education in school and community settings. Students will examine both the historical and contemporary underpinnings of Health Education. The course offers a strong focus on effective practice in Health Education, including recognition of determinants of health and how Health Education can be put to work to develop knowledge, understandings and skills in order to navigate the complexities of our 21st century world.
HLTH122	Building Resilience		S2	This course is designed as an introduction to the concept of mental health. It examines concepts of mental health and resilience and considers these in relation to the determinants of health. The course develops students' understanding of models of best practice in mental health education and promotion. Students will explore a range of mental health issues and demonstrate a range of strategies designed to enhance their own and others' mental health.
HSRV104	Youth Realities	S1		The course introduces students to the diverse realities of 'youth' with a focus on multiple contexts. Students explore the concept of youth and the cultural, historical, political and economic contexts in which young people live and the decisions that they make. We critically consider the issues that place young people outside the margins of dominant society, and the responses, models and theoretical frameworks used in youth studies.
INFO123	Business Information Systems and Technology	S1	S2	This course analyses information systems via their four core components: people, process, technology, and data. Through real-world case studies, students explore how digitalisation transforms industries while learning to assess various digital strategies. The course examines how organisations select, deploy, and manage established and emergent technologies - from enterprise systems to artificial intelligence - while addressing security and ethical considerations.
INFO125	Introduction to Programming with Databases	S1		This course provides a beginner-friendly introduction to programming and database concepts. Students will engage with both low-code development environments and hands-on coding to build interactive, real-world applications. Through guided exercises and practical projects, the course emphasises programming logic, user interface design, and data handling.
JAPA125	Elementary Japanese A	S1		This course is designed for students with little or no previous knowledge of the Japanese language. Teaching will focus on the four basic language skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. At the end of the course, students should be able to read and write the kana scripts, know a range of Japanese vocabulary, and understand and actively use some elements of basic modern grammar. They will be able to conduct simple conversations in Japanese and will be familiar with key cultural aspects.
JAPA126	Elementary Japanese B		S2	This course follows on from JAPA125 or JAPA127, and is the entry point for students with NCEA level 2 Japanese or equivalent. Teaching will focus on the four basic language skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. At the end of the course, students should be able to understand and actively use a wide range of basic modern Japanese grammar and vocabulary, and approximately 120 kanji characters and be familiar with a range of key cultural aspects.
LING101	How Language Works	S1		This course introduces students to the study of the English language, its words, sounds and sentences. It also introduces the conceptual and analytical tools which linguists use to understand how languages are constructed.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
LING102	Language and Society in New Zealand and Beyond		S2	In this course, we examine the relationship between language and our social lives, exploring topics such as language use in multilingual communities, the impact of attitudes, and the role of identity. As the course progresses, we focus more closely on our local context, exploring the use of and relationship between New Zealand English and te reo Māori.
MAOR107	Te Ara o Tawhaki: Maori Thought, Beliefs and Practices	S1		This course provides an introduction to Māori knowledges and metaphysics through a study of topics such as voyaging, art and aesthetics, warfare, conflict and peace. We also look at how approaches to Māori knowledges and their impacts are critiqued.
MAOR108	Te Patu a Maui : The Treaty of Waitangi - facing and overcoming colonisation		S2	Through focus on the themes of Power, Property and Citizenship, this course examines the historical realities of the Treaty, enabling an understanding of the modern colonial nation state and its processes with respect to Indigenous peoples. The course examines Māori responses, engagement with, and resistance to the colonial project leading to a critical understanding of colonialism.
MAOR165	Tuakiri : Culture and Identity	S1	S2	What does it mean to live in Aotearoa/New Zealand in the 21st century? This course examines identity as a lived experience for Māori and non-Māori and how it shapes our thinking at individual, organisation and systemic levels in this country. The course also focusses on contemporary issues arising from identity tensions, enabling students to apply insights to effect positive social change in order to work effectively in a bicultural manner.
MGMT100	Fundamentals of Management	S1	S2	An introduction to the fundamental principles of management related to the functional areas of planning, organising, leading and controlling, as well as an introduction to how organisations are linked to the New Zealand and global business environment.
MGMT170	Managerial Decision Making		S2	This course introduces basic managerial decision-making tools and their application to business. The topics include project management, forecasting, inventory management, cost-benefit analysis and decision-making. The course develops problem solving skills, an invaluable tool for modern business.
MKTG100	Principles of Marketing	S1	S2	This course aims to enable students to understand the fundamental concepts and theories of marketing and how they may be applied to the marketplace in a modern and dynamic environment. By the end of the course, students should appreciate the various concepts and theories of marketing and understand how these may be appropriately applied in achieving marketing objectives in a variety of contexts and environments.
MUSA100	Essentials in Music Techniques	S1		This course provides students with skills in musicianship, music theory. Students will have a good understanding of chords and chord progressions, melodic patterns and notation systems, and will have acquired skills in sight singing and melodic dictation.
MUSA101	Musicianship, Harmony and Analysis 1		S2	This course continues the development of students' skills in music analysis, harmony (including SATB part writing) and musicianship (sight singing, melodic and harmonic dictation, and keyboard harmonisation).
MUSA132	Musics of the World	S1		This course explores musical traditions from a range of geographical regions and introduces key concepts for the study of music in culture.
MUSA152	Recording Techniques		S2	This course helps the student to develop skills in DAW operation, microphone techniques, and fundamentals of acoustics and digital audio required for complex multitrack recording projects. Students are taught how to apply these skills in a range of production situations, including orchestral, instrumental, and vocal ensemble recording. The concept of critical listening is also introduced, along with practical guidelines for noise and hearing management.
PACS111	Pacific Peoples and Societies	S1		This course provides a rich foundation of the history, diversity, and contemporary issues of the Pacific, including diasporic Pacific communities. Students will learn about Pacific Indigenous worldviews, cultures, knowledges, identities and experiences. Students will also explore the structures of Pacific societies and how these are evolving with changes in the modern world. Pacific agency, the transnationalism of Pacific identity and contemporary issues of climate change, sustainability and innovation are themes that run through the course as are the concepts of inclusion, diversity, empowerment, and positive transformation.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
PHIL110	Science: Good, Bad, and Bogus	S1		This course is a critical thinker's toolkit. It will teach you 20 principles you can use to tell science from pseudo-science, truth from falsehood, logic from rhetoric, sound reasoning from wishful thinking, effective medicine from quackery, and good evidence from lies, fraud and fakery. The critical thinking skills you learn in this course will be vital if you go on to do more philosophy. They are also readily applicable to other disciplines, and should help you steer clear of scam-artists, charlatans, confidence-tricksters and get-rich-quick-schemes in the world outside of academia. Topics covered include the fallibility of the senses, the fallibility of memory, the placebo effect, the tricks of the cold reader's trade, confirmation bias, the Barnum effect, relativism, mind viruses, the basics of logic, formal and informal fallacies, and the scientific evaluation of competing hypotheses.
PHIL133	Philosophy and Human Nature	S1		The human record is full of contradictions. We are capable all at once of selfless love and murderous depravity; of sublime rational insight and base stupidity; of soul-baring honesty and habitual duplicity; of principled rebellion and obsequious deference to authority; of generosity and jealousy. What, then, is our true nature? Are we rational creatures or are we enslaved by our passions? Are we moral creatures or are we fundamentally selfish? Can we improve the human situation either individually or collectively? Does it all depend on our evolutionary history? This course is an introduction to Western philosophy through the ideas of Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Hume, Kant, Marx, Nietzsche, Darwin, and other influential thinkers as they puzzle over the riddles of human nature.
PHIL137	The Philosophy and Ethics of Artificial Intelligence		S2	Computing technology has already revolutionised our lives and shows no signs of stopping. Algorithms are everywhere. Artificial Intelligence powered by our data is increasingly determining our lives. The implementation of this technology has leapt ahead of our understanding of its ethical, societal, legal, and political significance. From self-driving cars to autonomous weapons, data-brokers to the metaverse, no aspects of our lives will be the same again. In this course, you will learn about cutting edge work from both within and outside academic philosophy concerning the challenges posed by the ever-increasing use of computing technology and AI. Questions raised in the course include: Do tech companies violate our right to privacy when they harvest our data? Can automated algorithmic decision-making deliver us a future free of human bias? Could an Artificial Intelligence possess freewill?
PHIL139	Ethics, Politics and Justice		S2	How we should live our lives is the most important question of all. What makes our actions right or wrong? Is it our culture, our emotions, facts about the world, or God's commands? Are pleasure and happiness all that really matters? What should we do when justice and freedom conflict with happiness or with each other? Should we always obey the law? Is taxation legalised theft? This course introduces students to moral and political philosophy by examining ideas and arguments about how we should live our personal, social and political lives.
PHYS101	Engineering Physics A: Mechanics, Waves, Electromagnetism and Thermal Physics	S1		This is a required course for all Engineering Programmes as well as Physics and Astronomy degrees. PHYS101 builds on NCEA-level 3 physics to develop Mechanics, Conservation Laws, Fluids, Waves, Thermal Physics, and Electromagnetism into an essential foundation for science and technology understanding.
PHYS101	Engineering Physics A: Mechanics, Waves, Electromagnetism and Thermal Physics		S2	Students should have NCEA 14 credits (18 credits strongly recommended) at Level 3 Physics, and 14 Credits (18 credits strongly recommended) at level 3 Mathematics (including the standards 'Apply differentiation methods in solving problems (91578)' and 'Apply integration methods in solving problems(91579)'). This is a required course for all Engineering Programmes as well as Physics and Astronomy degrees. PHYS101 builds on NCEA-level 3 physics to develop Mechanics, Conservation Laws, Fluids, Waves, Thermal Physics, and Electromagnetism into an essential foundation for science and technology understanding.
PHYS111	Introductory Physics for Physical Sciences and Engineering	S1		An introductory physics course covering mechanics, oscillations, waves, D.C. circuits, geometrical optics, wave optics, nuclear physics.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
POLS102	Politics: An Introduction		S2	This course introduces the basic tools and techniques used in political science, including research techniques, formulation of hypotheses, and methods of analysis. It also introduces students to a selection of key theories and frameworks. The course covers topics such as nationalism and ethnicity, democracy, authoritarianism, people's power, conflict, globalisation, and the future of global politics. This course will be of great benefit to Political Science majors of all levels and to students who desire a broad-based introduction to the field. This course is recommended for Political Science majors.
POLS103	Introduction to New Zealand Politics and Policy	S1		How are decisions made in New Zealand? Who has how much power in this process? How can citizens, businesses, iwi, and a diverse range of groups have a say? This course is an introduction to New Zealand politics and public policy. The course examines the core features of New Zealand's political landscape: The constitution, how MMP works, the roles of leaders, cabinet and parliament, and then explores issues that matter to the public, and asks how citizens can participate in politics, what role powerful groups including the media play in decision making and how new, diverse voices can be heard, including your own. The course includes a field day working in local communities learning about leadership and public attitudes.
POLS104	Introduction to International Relations	S1		This course provides a broad introduction to the core issues and theories related to the study of international relations. Students will be introduced to the discipline through a study of key historical events, prominent theories of international relations, and a variety of practical examples.
POLS105	Comparing the Politics of Nations: A Global Introduction		S2	This course serves as an introduction to the basics of comparative political studies. It is designed to provide the student with a broad comparative overview of the world's political systems. The main objective is to give students the necessary tools to assess and understand the differences in political culture, political organisations, governmental structures, and political behaviour.
POLS106	Plato to Nato: Introduction to Political Thought	S1		In this course, you will study the evolution of the ideas that form the building blocks of the political and social sciences. The course traverses the political ideas that arose in the Greek and Roman civilisations, the Renaissance, the birth of America, the death of the English and French despotic monarchies, and the great traumas of socialism, Marxism and the political upheavals that followed the wars of the 20th century. We will trace the changes in the fundamental political concepts such as freedom, equality, rights, justice, government, the state, markets, and domination.
PSYC105	Introductory Psychology - Brain, Behaviour and Cognition	S1		Psychology is a diverse and thriving science devoted to understanding behaviour and the human mind. In PSYC105 you will receive an introduction to the following areas: positive psychology; wellbeing; visual perception; research methods; learning and behaviour change; forensic psychology; neuropsychology; drugs and behaviour; memory and cognition; and health psychology.
PSYC106	Introductory Psychology - Social, Personality and Developmental		S2	Psychology is a diverse and thriving science devoted to understanding behaviour and the human mind. In PSYC106 you will receive an introduction to five major domains: personality, abnormal, social, developmental, and organisational psychology. You will also learn about the different research methods used in each of these domains.
PSYC107	Foundations of Psychological Science		S2	In this course we'll take a holistic and critical look at the science of psychology itself: its questions, methods, evidence, and unique challenges; as well as its place within modern Aotearoa New Zealand society. You'll learn how psychologists measure a world of unobservable mental traits, devise experiments that reveal the underlying organisation and mechanisms of the mind, and convert raw data into real world conclusions that have a meaningful impact on people's lives. You'll build the critical thinking skills to distinguish good psychological science from bad, genuine breakthroughs from glorified clickbait, and evidence-based interventions from scams and grifts.
RUSS130	Elementary Russian Language A	S1		Russian language course for absolute beginners, i.e. students with no knowledge of Russian, based on the communicative approach.
RUSS131	Elementary Russian Language B		S2	A Russian language course that follows on from RUSS130, based on the communicative approach.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
RUSS230	Intermediate Russian Language A	S1		This is the first of two intermediate Russian language courses. It aims at extending vocabulary and grammatical structures to discuss and write about simple topics in Russian culture.
RUSS231	Intermediate Russian Language B		S2	This is the second of two intermediate Russian language courses. It extends the reading, writing and discussion skills acquired in RUSS230 and places greater emphasis on conversation skills.
SCIE101	Science, Society and Me	S1	S2	In this foundational course, we examine stimulating questions such as what science is, who does science, how is science practiced, how do science, culture and society interact and how science is communicated to differing audiences. This course will draw on a variety of historical and contemporary case-studies, leading edge research, ethical challenges and controversial issues. Students will gain an understanding of the civic roles, responsibilities and influence of science in our Māori, New Zealand, and global communities. Students will learn how to work effectively as a team and communicate successfully to communities and end-users. Students will learn what it means to be a successful scientist in Aotearoa (New Zealand) and the world in the 21st century.
SCIM101	Science, Māori and Indigenous Knowledge		S2	This is an integrated multi-disciplinary course between Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies and the College of Science. This course provides a basic understanding of Māori and indigenous peoples' knowledge in such fields as astronomy, physics, conservation biology, aquaculture, resource management and health sciences. The course provides unique perspectives in indigenous knowledge, western science and their overlap. The course will provide an essential background in cultural awareness and its relationship with today's New Zealand scientific community.
SOCI111	Exploring Society	S1		An introduction to the major themes in contemporary sociology in a way that is relevant to New Zealand culture and society.
SOCI112	Global Society		S2	Combining sociological theory and concepts with arguments and examples drawn from around the globe, this course conveys the scope and value of sociology for understanding the complex and fast-changing world in which we live.
SOWK102	Introduction to Social Work	S1		A course that introduces the history, and contemporary organisation, and functions of social services in Aotearoa New Zealand society. Particular emphasis is placed on the development of students' capacities to understand and critically analyse the impact of service delivery on Māori as tangata whenua and/or diverse populations.
SOWK104	Youth Realities	S1		The course introduces students to the diverse realities of 'youth' with a focus on multiple contexts. Students explore the concept of youth and the cultural, historical, political and economic contexts in which young people live and the decisions that they make. We critically consider the issues that place young people outside the margins of dominant society, and the responses, models and theoretical frameworks used in youth studies.
SPAN101	Beginners' Spanish A	S1		An introductory language course for students with no previous knowledge of Spanish.
SPAN102	Beginners' Spanish B		S2	A language course following on from SPAN101, for those with limited knowledge of Spanish.
SPAN201	Intermediate Spanish Language A	S1		Review of the basic features of Spanish that leads into an intensified examination of more complex structures for both conversational and written Spanish, including a wide range of verb structures.
SPRT101	Introduction to Sport Coaching	S1		This course explores contemporary practice and recent research developments in Sport Coaching. It encourages students to adopt an open mindset toward coaching and engage in informed reflective practice. Students will critically examine their existing coaching beliefs and how these shape their coaching behaviours. The course focuses on coaching for learning rather than simply what to coach, emphasizing human developmental psychology and pedagogy. Planning for learning and managing learners is a major focus of the course. Students will be introduced to a spectrum of coaching styles - from direct instruction to problem-solving approaches - with an emphasis on direct instruction and management techniques.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
SPRT104	Anatomy and Physiology	S1		This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the structure and function of the human body, and will be fundamental for students pursuing careers in the health sciences, sport and exercise sciences or biomedical fields. Covering topics from cellular biology to major body systems, this course focuses on the building blocks of life and the complex interactions between the musculoskeletal, nervous, cardiovascular and respiratory systems. Through a blend of dynamic theoretical lectures, online learning and interactive workshops, students will explore topics such as how tissues form organs; how bones and muscles maintain structure and enable movement; how the brain and nerves control bodily functions; and how the cardiovascular and respiratory systems move blood and vital gases around our body.
SPRT105	Sport, History and Society		S2	An introduction to the history and philosophy of physical education, physical activity and sport, critiquing the development of movement culture with particular reference to New Zealand sport development and physical education. In order to understand the nature and purpose of contemporary movement contexts, this course provides historical and philosophical frameworks.
SPRT107	Sport Nutrition		S2	This course provides an understanding of nutritional principles for healthy living and maintaining and improving sporting performance. The course will identify recommended nutritional practices for various populations including athletes, recreational exercisers, and groups with specific nutritional needs. The use of nutritional supplements in sporting performance will also be examined.
SPRT108	Sport Business and Governance		S2	This course investigates governance of sports organisations through a variety of contexts. This includes a focus on board leadership, motivations and structures, including a focus on addressing Māori and Pasifika health and well-being goals and outcomes as a strategic priority for sports organisations. There is a particular focus on Sport NZ's development and use of Te Pake o Ihi Aotearoa Māori Outcomes Framework and Ara Taiohi's Mana Taiohi framework. This course focuses on community engagement through the use of marketing communications to create strong connection, action and support.
SPSC113	Introduction to Communication Disorders		S2	An introduction to the many communication and swallowing disorders that people might face during their lifetimes. You will learn about the difficulties that children might have with their communication, feeding and/or swallowing and that adults might encounter as a result of an acquired condition such as a stroke or a brain injury. You'll learn about the SLT profession as well as supporting the people and disorders SLTs work with from all walks of life.
SPSC114	The Art and Science of Human Communication	S1		SPSC114 examines how we communicate, how that is influenced by our culture, the neural and cognitive processes underpinning communication, and how communication is affected by external contexts such as noise and stress. It highlights theories and practical strategies to enhance the success of communication, in written and spoken format, as a university student and future professional. Drawing on case studies from the fields of medicine and aviation, we explore the effects of communication failure-and how those issues can be mitigated. We explore how communication differs across groups-such as children, older adults and those with communication difficulty.
STAT101	Statistics 1	S1	S2	An introduction to the ideas, techniques and applications of statistics and probability.
TREO110	Te Ngao Tu: Conversational Māori for Absolute Beginners	S1	S2	A beginner's course in Māori language for those with no previous background in Te Reo Māori. Students will learn basic informal and formal greetings, introductory songs, proverbs and idiom, how to introduce themselves, express family relationships. The course will enable students to hold a basic conversation. Students who have been credited with higher level TREO language courses cannot credit TREO 110. Students with prior knowledge or who are literate and/or fluent speakers of Te Reo should not enrol in this course.
TREO112	Te Ngao Pae 2: Introductory Reo 2		S2	A second level beginners' course in Te Reo Māori for those who have completed TREO111 or who have the equivalent level of proficiency. This course focusses on acquisition of more complex sentence constructions and extends knowledge of Māori vocabulary. In particular, knowledge of verbal sentences is enhanced by a study of commands, passive sentences, negatives and future constructions. Possessive phrases and sentence structures are also studied.

Course Code	Course Title	Semester		Course Description
TREO211	Te Ngao Mamaku 1	S1		An intermediate level course in Te Reo Māori for those who have completed TREO112 or who have recognised prior learning. This course continues the study of the structure of Te Reo Māori and extends your speaking skills through the study of a range of everyday topics. The course aims to increase the range and fluency of conversational ability to help lay the groundwork for future growth.
TREO212	Te Ngao Mamaku 2	S2		An intermediate level course in Te Reo Māori for those who have completed TREO211 or who have recognised prior learning. This course continues the study of the structure of Te Reo Maori and extends your speaking skills through the study of a range of everyday topics. The course aims to increase the range and fluency of conversational ability to help lay the groundwork for future growth.
YACL101	Introduction to Youth Leadership: Leading the Self	S1		What is the role of 'the self' in youth and community leadership? What are the personal dispositions required for youth and community leadership and how might these be nurtured within, for and by the self, and/or by others? In this course, students will explore self-leadership from contemporary psychological, philosophical, cultural, and/or any other theoretical perspective/s relevant to their situation and to contemporary Aotearoa. Kaupapa Māori approaches will be explored, as part of which students will be required to have experienced a stay on the noho marae (or alternative).
YACL102	Introduction to Professional Youth Work in Aotearoa		S2	In this course, you will be introduced to and learn about the professional practice of youth work in Aotearoa. You will learn about the context within which youth work in Aotearoa operates, its history and current structures. The course will help you understand the principles of the sector and explicitly acknowledges the diversity and mana of young people. In this course, you will examine how young people build and sustain quality relationships and connect to the social, physical and digital world, demonstrating knowledge of hononga and whanaungatanga. We will investigate the legal and ethical requirements for the care of young people in Aotearoa in the context of holistic wellbeing, responsibility and reciprocity. You will be introduced to frameworks that are used in the youth work sector to facilitate manaakitanga, youth participation and whai whaitanga, recognising young people as valued contributors to society.
WRIT101	Writing for Academic Success	S1	S2	Writing for Academic Success fosters the capacity for analytical thought about texts and language. The course also provides training in the writing of clear and effective prose, inculcates awareness of crucial structural and rhetorical features of expository writing, and encourages the application of that awareness to writing in a range of academic and professional contexts.



“The STAR Maths course has given me a good idea of what the workload of a real university paper is like, and it’s given me the confidence that I can succeed in the subject. Coming on campus every week has been fun, I’ve met like-minded people, and it’s helped me get used to UC’s learning environment. I’d definitely recommend the course to anyone willing to put in the time and effort as it’s been super rewarding.”

Oscar

2025 STAR student from Burnside High School

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