

What can I do with a degree in Māori and Indigenous Studies?

Māori and Indigenous Studies.



Career planning: what do I need to know?

Knowledge of yourself is important for career decision making. Start by looking at your personal goals, abilities, values and interests to explore study and career options that are relevant to you. Some of these may change over time, so it is important to self-reflect and evaluate your career on an ongoing basis.

What do employers look for?

Many employers look for generic skills such as communication, customer-focus, bicultural competence, cultural awareness and teamwork. With technology and globalisation changing the nature of society, skills such as resilience, problem solving and adaptability are valuable at work as well as in life.

How can I develop these skills?

- Some skills are developed through your degree

- Extra-curricular activities can help, for example getting involved in clubs, mentoring, cultural groups, part-time work or volunteering
- Be open to professional and personal development opportunities. Whether it is undertaking an internship, overseas exchange, skills seminar, or joining an industry group — these activities will enhance your employability.

What else should I know?

The career options in this brochure are examples only and the list is not exhaustive. Some careers may require further study beyond a first degree or additional work experience. Some pathways and degrees have a recommended school background. Find more subject details at

📄 www.canterbury.ac.nz/subjects/maori

If this brochure does not answer your questions, talking to an expert such as a career consultant can help you to identify the next steps in your career decision making journey.

📄 www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

What is Māori and Indigenous Studies?

Kia ora koutou, tātou katoa.

Nau mai, haere mai, kia rongo koutou i ngā kōrero a ō tātou mātua tīpuna kua huri ki tua o te ārai, ā, mā koutou ō rātou tūmanako rangatira e whakatutuki mō te ao e huri nei.

Māori and Indigenous Studies is a broad subject that seeks to understand the culture, knowledge and philosophies of Māori and indigenous peoples and their economic, political and social realities. These studies are increasingly seen as central to education, public policy and cultural competency in Aotearoa New Zealand's bicultural and multicultural landscape as well as connecting with indigenous peoples worldwide.



AT A GLANCE

\$68.7b is what the Māori economy was worth in 2021*

73% of Chinese visitors to Aotearoa New Zealand will visit a Ngāi Tahu Tourism visitor attraction**

What skills have UC graduates gained?

Through their Māori and Indigenous Studies degree, graduates develop a valuable set of skills that are transferable to a range of careers. These skills include:

- Analysing complex textual and cultural phenomenon
- Understanding of tikanga Māori values
- Ability to implement kaupapa Māori perspectives
- Understanding of the influences on contemporary society
- Thinking critically and creatively, and challenging ideas
- Writing persuasively
- Research and computing skills
- Interpretive and analytical thinking
- Problem solving skills
- Oral and written communication.

Applied learning

Opportunities to apply your learning outside the classroom are available in this subject, for example Arts internships, consulting projects (through the Māui Lab) and fieldtrips. These experiences deepen your skillset, awareness of others, working knowledge, and employability.

Where have UC graduates been employed?

Graduates of Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies are found all around the world. Examples of specific employment sectors in Aotearoa New Zealand are:

- Most professional career pathways want people to have had some exposure to te ao Māori
- The diverse Māori sector, spanning private business, tribal organisations, Māori land incorporations and a raft of 'third sector' health, education and social services
- Central and local government organisations have roles dedicated to working with Māori communities and/or addressing Māori interests eg, Whānau Ora
- Most professional service companies, such as lawyers, accountants, engineers, and clinicians are building their capability to engage with the Māori sector.

Māori and Indigenous Studies alumni are valued in such sectors as:

- Governance including public policy
- Education
- Criminal justice
- Health
- Social services.

* Business and Economic Research with Te Pūtea Matua the Reserve Bank

** www.ngaitahu.iwi.nz/investment/ngai-tahu-annual-reports

What jobs and activities do graduates do?

Graduates with this degree are employed in a range of jobs — see some examples below.

Note: Some of the jobs listed may require postgraduate study. See the 'Further study' section.

Kaitātari kaupapa | advisor / Policy analyst

Identifies and investigates issues and opportunities eg, in society, law or governance

- Interprets existing policies and briefs leaders
- Prepares reports and recommends changes

Kaiārahi | mentor / Guide / leader

- Supports people to reflect biculturalism
- Identifies opportunities and reviews processes to achieve organisational Māori aspirations
- Connects with contributors, leaders and knowledge guardians

Kaitiaki taonga | Conservator

- Examines artefacts, taonga and their storage
- Keeps records and identifies restoration work
- Cleans and repairs sensitive objects and recreates historically accurate finishes

Kaiatawhai whakaora taonga | Curator, collection manager

- Selects taonga for display at museums/galleries
- Manages documentation and conducts research
- Provides access to collections, and fields queries

Kaiwhakahaere | Manager / assistant manager

- Oversees the effective use of resources
- Responsible for certain aspects or overall operation of an organisation or unit
- Plans, budgets, supervises, advises, implements, solves problems, and initiates ideas

Kaiako kura tuarua | Secondary school teacher

- Plans and delivers instructional lessons
- Evaluates performance and provides feedback
- Sets and marks assignments and tests

Kaiako kura tuatahi | Primary school teacher

- Prepares learning activities for 5–13 year olds
- Teaches and marks subjects including social studies, art and literacy
- Develops children's social skills and behaviours

Resource management planner / officer

- Reviews and implements policy initiatives and submissions on a region's natural resources
- Ensures adherence to environmental regulations
- Processes resource or building consent requests

Pūkenga atawhai | Māori health worker

- Provides cultural support to the tangata whaiora, their whānau, the clinician and service
- Improves service delivery to these groups

Pouherenga kōrero o-mua | Historian

- Analyses sources to uncover the history of a period, place, person, group or aspect
- Publishes findings and shares knowledge

Pūkenga whare wānanga | Lecturer

- Prepares and gives lectures and tutorials
- Sets and marks assignments and exams
- Conducts research, writes and publishes articles

Kairangahau | Research advisor / assistant

- Organises and conducts research surveys
- Tests theories and interprets the results
- Writes reports and makes recommendations

Kaimahi taiohi | Social / youth / case worker

- Provides support for individuals and whānau
- Builds trust and links people to resources
- Writes reports and coordinates budgets

Rakahinonga, tumu whakarae | Entrepreneur, CEO

Entrepreneurship and innovation are an increasing part of the working landscape. Through generating a business idea, or getting involved in a start-up/business venture, you have the potential to create a work opportunity that aligns with your knowledge, skills, values and risk profile. To get started on how to establish, run and grow a new business, go to Te Pokapū Rakahinonga, Centre for Entrepreneurship at the University of Canterbury www.canterbury.ac.nz/uce

What professional organisations can I engage with?

Connecting with professional bodies and organisations can help you to establish professional networks and learn more about different career



options in your area of interest. Gaining valuable insight into a profession can assist in making informed career decisions.

- Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga | Māori Centre of Research Excellence
www.maramatanga.co.nz
- Toi Māori Aotearoa | Māori Arts NZ
www.maoriart.org.nz

Having a professional presence on social media networks such as www.linkedin.com and Facebook can help you to keep up to date with important industry developments and trends, networking opportunities, events and job vacancies. Following relevant professional bodies, organisations, companies and thought leaders is a great way to gain a deeper awareness of the industries that interest you. Social media presents an opportunity to build and enhance networks as well as to display your involvement in projects and any academic successes.

Why do further study and what are my options?

Postgraduate study can facilitate career benefits such as specialist skills, entry into a specific occupation, higher starting salary, faster progression rate, and advanced research capability. It is important to determine which, if any, further study will help you in your future career.

Māori and Indigenous Studies graduates can progress into a number of higher programmes from honours through to PhD level. UC also offers a postgraduate certificate and master's in Māori and Indigenous Leadership.

Many Arts graduates do additional training in teaching, journalism, policy, international relations, librarianship or management. Postgraduate study can lead to an academic career pathway in teaching and research. For UC qualification listings visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/courses

Useful links

- Te Rōpū Rapuara UC Careers
www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers
- Careers New Zealand
www.careers.govt.nz
- For Māori business
www.mbie.govt.nz/business-and-employment/economic-development/maori-economic-development

Caitlin



Bachelor of Arts in Māori and Indigenous Studies and Te Reo Māori
Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Māori and Indigenous Studies
Studying towards a Master of Teaching and Learning endorsed in Primary

What motivated you to study your chosen subjects?

I undertook a BA because I wanted to learn te reo and learn about Māori culture. I pursued a BA with Honours to extend myself and my abilities, to question assumptions, and look below the surface.

What did you learn as a part-time research assistant?

I was a UC research assistant for a year and a half, working for Professor Jeanette King in Aotahi on two projects. The Tuhinga Māhorahora project involved transcribing and analysing the writing of Māori immersion primary students. The Comparative Language Input Project was an international project investigating the speech of teachers in indigenous language immersion programmes and involved transcribing and analysing the speech of a Māori immersion teacher.

Through this work I increased my understanding of linguistic analysis, learnt how to use various software programmes and improved my reo. I also gained contacts and workplace experience.

How have your studies helped you in teaching?

My career goal is to become a primary school teacher. My studies in Māori and Indigenous Studies and Te Reo Māori have been invaluable as a student teacher. In all the schools I have

visited, there is an attempt to promote te reo Māori and Māori culture. However, not all have the knowledge to do so and I've been able to support my teachers and peers in this area.

I've also been informed that my knowledge of Te Reo Māori and Māori and Indigenous Studies makes me highly employable.

How would you sum up your uni experience so far?

I've loved everything. It has challenged my beliefs, I have met some amazing people and I feel I have a broader outlook on life.

Do you have any words of advice?

Keep an open mind and push past the fear. Turn up, talk to classmates and take advantage of all available opportunities. You can do the bare minimum and get awarded a piece of paper or you can fully participate and be transformed.

Read more online

Read more stories about our students' university experiences online. UC alumni make a difference in varied ways around the globe. To find out where graduates are now visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/getstarted/whyuc/student-profiles

The information in this brochure was correct at the time of print but is subject to change.

More information

UC students seeking study advice.

Aotahi | School of Māori and Indigenous Studies
Inspiring, challenging and encouraging students is why we are here. Aotahi will connect you with a dynamic staff at the forefront of research. Our staff in Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies operate as a whānau. We pride ourselves on being accessible in and out of classes to provide support and guidance for students.

T: +64 3 369 3377

E: artsdegreeadvice@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/arts/schools-and-departments/aotahi-school-of-maori-and-indigenous-studies

Anyone seeking careers advice.

Te Rōpū Rapuara | UC Careers

UC offers intending and current students and recent graduates a wide range of services, including individual career guidance, seminars, career resources and student and graduate employment opportunities.

T: +64 3 369 0303

E: careers@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

Prospective students seeking study advice.

Te Rōpū Takawaenga | Student Liaison

The liaison team provide advice to future students who are starting their degree for the first time. They can assist with information on degrees, scholarships, accommodation, and other aspects of university life. We have offices in Christchurch, Auckland and Wellington.

Ōtautahi | Christchurch

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: liaison@canterbury.ac.nz

Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland

T: 0800 UCAUCK

E: auckland@canterbury.ac.nz

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: wellington@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison

