What can I do with a degree in Te Reo Māori?

Te Reo Māori.

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, 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/treo

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 Te Reo Māori?

He taoka te reo
he kura pounamu
iti kahuraki
māpihi maurea.
The language is a treasure
like a greenstone pendant
That which I strive to possess
And carry with me always.
The need to embrace te reo Māori as a living, everyday language is becoming more important for people of all walks of life in Aotearoa New Zealand. This subject enables people to explore their identity as New Zealanders and to pass on their passion for this language of Aotearoa to others.

Te Reo Māori is recommended for those who might work with Māori people, indigenous industries or roles that require bicultural and multicultural competency. Any student can take Māori language courses to support their studies.
What skills have UC graduates gained?

Through their Te Reo Māori degree, graduates develop a valuable set of transferable skills such as:

- Reading, writing, listening and speaking te reo Māori
- Understanding of tikanga Māori values
- Ability to implement kaupapa Māori perspectives
- Well-developed communication skills
- Interpretive and analytical thinking
- Understanding the global interactions which shape contemporary society
- Thinking critically and creatively, and challenging ideas
- Problem solving skills
- Research and computing skills.

Applied learning

Opportunities to apply your learning outside the classroom are available in this subject, such as:

- Arts internships
- Consulting projects (through the Māui Lab)
- Fieldtrips — Aotahi offers regular wānanga reo (language immersion field trips) to local marae for its language students.

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 e.g. Whānau Ora
- Most professional service companies, such as lawyers, accountants, engineers, and clinicians are building their capability to engage with the Māori sector.

Te Reo Māori alumni are valued in such sectors as:

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

For examples of employers who recruit UC students and graduates go to [www.canterbury.ac.nz/recruitingemployers](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/recruitingemployers)

AT A GLANCE

- 55% of Māori adults had some ability to speak te reo Māori in 2013 (up 13% from 2001)*
- 9/10 early childhood providers use te reo Māori^*
- Māori TV is a third of the reason why non-Māori’s understanding of Māori culture and receptivity of te reo has increased"**

^ 2015 Education Counts report
" New research shows that Māori Television is playing a vital role in the revitalisation of te reo Māori, May 2017, [www.maoritelevision.com/about/media](http://www.maoritelevision.com/about/media)
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.

Policy analyst / advisor | Kaitātari kaupapa
- Identifies and investigates issues and opportunities eg, in society, law or governance
- Interprets existing policies and briefs leaders
- Prepares reports and recommends changes

Secondary school teacher | Kaiako kura tuarua
- Plans and delivers instructional lessons
- Evaluates performance and provides feedback
- Sets and marks assignments and tests

Primary school teacher | Kaiako kura tuatahi
- 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

Reporter | Kaikawe kōrero
Broadcaster | Kaipāho
- Investigates and gathers information for items
- Prepares scripts
- Reports and presents stories to the public

Lecturer | Pūkenga whare wānanga
- Prepares and gives lectures and tutorials
- Sets and marks assignments and exams
- Conducts research, writes and publishes articles

Editor | Ētita / kaiwhakatika
- Plans and commissions content for publication
- Evaluates, edits and organises material for multiple formats — online and in print
- Liaises with other staff to oversee production

Library assistant | Kaitiaki
- Categories and catalogues library materials
- Selects materials for library use
- Helps customers find and use materials

Student advisor | Kaitohotohu ākonga
- Gives advice on academic processes, programmes or courses
- Helps students access resources and services

Guide / leader / mentor | Kaiārahi
- Supports people to reflect biculturalism
- Identifies opportunities and reviews processes to achieve organisational Māori aspirations
- Connects with contributors, leaders and others

Research advisor / assistant | Kairangahau
- Organises and conducts research surveys
- Tests theories and interprets the results
- Writes reports and makes recommendations

Outreach officer | Kaiwhātoro
Liaison advisor | Kaitakawaenga
- Delivers outreach services within a community
- Provides information to individuals, whānau, caregivers and professionals
- Organises events and delivers presentations

Interpreter, translator | Kaiwhaka Māori
- Translates conversations or rewrites text from one language to another
- Keeps up-to-date with language trends
- Proofreads translations
- Travels and presents

Entrepreneur and CEO | Rakahinonga me Tumu whakarae
- Develops an idea to form their own business
- Offers their services as a freelancer or consultant

Get started at www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers/Entrepreneurship/getting_started.shtml

What professional bodies can people link to?

As they progress, students and graduates often join organisations relevant to their area of interest. These can provide regular communications and offer the chance to network with others.

• Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga | Māori Centre of Research Excellence
  www.maramatanga.co.nz

• Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Social media networks such as LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter can keep you up-to-date with networking opportunities, events and job vacancies.

Why do further study and what are my options?

Postgraduate study can facilitate career benefits such as specialist skills, entry into a specific occupation, and advanced research capability. Ongoing study can also lead to an academic career. It is important to determine which, if any, further study will help you in your future career.

Te Reo Māori graduates can progress into higher programmes from honours through to master’s level. UC also offers a postgraduate certificate and master’s in Māori and Indigenous Leadership.

Many Arts graduates do further training in teaching, media, policy, librarianship or management.

UC Careerhub
Students and alumni can find details of internships, job vacancies and employability tips at www.careerhub.canterbury.ac.nz

Useful links

UC Careers, Internships & Employment
www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies
www.canterbury.ac.nz/arts/aotahi

Careers New Zealand
www.careers.govt.nz

Te Puni Kōkiri | Ministry for Māori Development

Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori | Māori Language Commission
www.tetaurawhiri.govt.nz
Michelle Bergman

Ngāti Rangitihi, Ngāti Raukawa
Bachelor of Arts in History with minors in Te Reo Māori and English
Studying towards a Postgraduate Certificate in Strategic Leadership
Kaiwhātoro Ākonga Māori | Māori Outreach Advisor, University of Canterbury

Why did you decide to come to uni and study te reo?
Post-earthquake reflections gave me the motivation to go back to studying after many years in the workforce. I want to become fluent in te reo so I can help contribute to the emerging te reo language.

What did you like most about learning a language?
Learning it was enjoyable, especially when you are immersed in such a positive environment and you can practise speaking the language every day. I can’t wait until I can converse fluently with other te reo Māori speakers.

Learning te reo Māori has also enriched my understanding of te ao Māori and has strengthened my connection with my culture.

How did you feel supported?
The Māori Development Team is awesome — they are always looking for ways to help you achieve. Kaiko and other te reo Māori students host café reo where you can get together and kōrero in a natural environment. Te Ao Mārama is a space that normalises speaking te reo Māori.

Was mentoring worthwhile?
I found it really helpful to have someone guide me when I first started and I wanted to be able to do the same for someone else so I joined the MDT as a tuakana mentor. It’s awesome to be able to help out other students.

Being a mentor helped me build connections within the university. When the Māori Outreach Advisor role came up, my skills and abilities were already recognised, which helped my application.

What motivates you in your work?
I have a passion for wanting to help rangatahi navigate their way through their teenage years. I originally came to university to become a secondary school teacher. The role I’m in now is my dream job that I never knew existed! So coming to UC opened up opportunities that I never knew were available.

I love helping rangatahi Māori transition easily into tertiary education. I also love helping Māori reconnect with their iwi and re-engage in te ao Māori.

Read more online
Read Michelle’s full story about her university experience online. UC alumni like Michelle make a difference in varied ways around the globe. Find out where Te Reo Māori graduates are now at www.canterbury.ac.nz/profiles

More information

UC students seeking study advice.
Aotahi: School of Māori and Indigenous Studies
Te Rāngai Toi Tangata | College of Arts
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 3 364 2176
E: artsdegreeadvice@canterbury.ac.nz
www.canterbury.ac.nz/arts/maori

Anyone seeking careers advice.
Careers, Internships & Employment
Te Rōpū Rapuara
CIE 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 3 364 3310
E: careers@canterbury.ac.nz
www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers
UCCareersEmployment

Prospective students seeking study advice.
Student Liaison
Te Rōpū Takawaenga
Student Liaison provides intending students with information about the university system in general and the courses, qualifications, support and facilities available at UC.
Ōtautahi | Christchurch
T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)
E: liaison@canterbury.ac.nz
www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington
T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748) ext 93231
E: wellington@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) ext 93231
E: wellington@canterbury.ac.nz

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