

Bachelor of Science



Prepare yourself for the future with a Bachelor of Science (BSc). The BSc is about understanding one-another and how we interact with the natural world through observation, experimentation, modelling and calculation.

A Bachelor of Science is your first step to becoming a scientist. It can open doors to many other careers too. A BSc has lots of subjects to choose from, exposes you to new ideas and technologies, and gives you the skills and tools you'll need to understand and influence the world around you.



Key details:

- 1 A degree where you will 'do science' right from the first semester of your first year
- 2 Access to the most field stations of any New Zealand university
- 3 Connecting with leading researchers to teach and mentor you
- 4 Hands-on practical and clinical learning experiences, research projects, lab and field work
- 5 State-of-art facilities in our purpose-built Rutherford Science precinct
- 6 Global study experiences, including exchanges to partner universities

About the degree

Our 3-year BSc degree is hugely flexible and you can mix and match subjects across a range of disciplines. This allows you to explore a wide range of subjects, try things out, and see what you like before you specialise and progress in your career.

Choose from 18 majors and over 30 minors from a range of disciplines including science, arts, business and health science giving you the opportunity to design your future.

Degree Structure

When it comes to choosing your subjects, the most important thing is to do what interests you. To complete the BSc, you need to fulfil the requirements for at least one major subject over the 3 years. When choosing your first-year courses you should include courses that allow you to progress to 200-level in at least two subjects. You also must have completed a minimum of 360 points over the 3 years with a minimum of 255 points of Science courses.

Year 1

SCIE 101	100 Level						
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Year 2

200 Level	100 Level						
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Year 3

300 Level	200 Level	200 Level					
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Compulsory course
 Science major courses¹
 Other Science courses
 Courses from Science or other degrees

The BSc degree requires a minimum total of 360 points:

- a minimum of 255 points of Science courses
- the remaining 105 points can be from either Science courses or courses from other degrees
- at least 225 points must be from courses above 100-level, with at least 90 points at 300-level.

Majors

For a major, you must complete all majoring requirements, including 60 points at 300-level in a single science subject (unless specified otherwise). A double major is possible in many subjects.

Allow for more than one potential major subject and check the 100-level requirements for your potential majors as some majors require more than two 100-level courses, or enrolment in a complementary subject such as Mathematics. Each small block represents a 15-point course, however some courses may be 30 points or more. All students in the BSc must complete SCIE 101 Science, Society and Me. It is best to get this course done in your first year if possible.

Major subjects

- Astronomy
- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Environmental Science
- Finance
- Financial Engineering
- Geography
- Geology
- Linguistics
- Mathematics
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Psychology
- Statistics

Minor subjects

You have a wide range of over 30 minor subjects to choose (including the majors above) such as:

- Adventure Sport and Environment
- Business and Sustainability
- Classics
- Entrepreneurship
- History
- Information Systems
- International Business
- Japanese
- Māori and Indigenous Studies
- Media and Communication
- Music
- Nutrition
- Philosophy
- Political Science and International Relations
- Sociology
- Sport Science

(see the complete list of minor subjects at www.canterbury.ac.nz)

Double degrees

It is possible to combine a Science degree with other degrees; a Bachelor of Science combines well with the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Commerce, the Bachelor of Laws or the Bachelor of Forestry Science. Normally you can complete the two degrees in five years, but some degree combinations may take longer. If you are considering a double degree, you should get advice from the Science Student Advisor or Te Rōpū Takawaenga, Liaison Office.

Conjoint degrees

Conjoint degrees are accelerated programmes for high-achieving students, which combine two degrees into a single bachelor degree in as little as four years. The accelerated programmes require 60 points fewer than a double degree, as well as a minimum sustained grade point average (equivalent to a B+) and a higher workload at 135 points per year. Conjoint degree options are:

- BA/BSc
- BCom/BSc
- BProdDesign/BSc

Entry Requirements

You don't need have to have taken science at school to study it at university. While some subjects do require specific NCEA science credits for entry (such as Chemistry and Physics), and science experience is helpful, there are still subjects you can study with no formal science education. University Entrance or an international equivalent is required for the BSc.

If you have not studied one or more of the required subjects, or did not achieve enough credits, but have University Entrance, don't worry we offer courses, training, and other options to help you catch up.



'I've taken part in the Certificate of University Preparation (CUP) course which is essentially year 13 in three months. This was great for an adult student as I never took any science papers at high school. I would recommend this to any students who had a rocky year 13.'

Flynn Adcock

Lab Technician, Christchurch Clinical Studies Trust (CCST)

Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

Studying towards a Master of Science in Biochemistry

Start Dates

Students can start in Kahuru | February, Toru | July

Scholarships

UC has a range of scholarships on offer for students including, School Leaver Scholarships and Awards for excellence.

Find out more at www.canterbury.ac.nz/get-started/scholarships/

Postgraduate study

As a graduate of a BSc you can continue to develop your independent research or specialise to meet industry demand in our range of postgraduate options. Postgraduate study ranges from honours, a research or taught masters' degree to a PhD.

Careers after degree

UC Science graduates are highly employable, our employers and graduates verify this. Not only are there varied career opportunities for graduates, but the connections we have with industry at a local and national level means you will have the best start to your career. The BSc sets you up to pursue a wide range of careers — from a marine biologist to a data analyst, a policy advisor to a seismologist or environmental consultant and much more. It can also open doors to many other careers, including business, politics, medicine, finance, and engineering.

Career support is available through our Te Rōpū Rapuara | UC Careers team, who will help you with all aspects of your career decision-making. They can help you with career planning and guidance, searching for a job or internships, connecting you with potential employers, and much more.



Ngā painga o UC? Why study at UC?

Compact city and campus

Our campus is in the heart of the beautiful, friendly and vibrant city of Ōtautahi Christchurch which sits within the takiwā, area, of Ngāi Tūāhuriri - a hapū who hold mana whenua rights of occupation in the Ōtautahi city area.

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, internationally recognised organisations working in the data science area; including:

- Biomolecular Interaction Centre
- Centre of Excellence in Aquaculture and Marine Ecology (CEAME)
- Food, Policy and Wellbeing Research Cluster
- Gateway Antarctica
- Te Taiwhenua o te Hauora | GeoHealth Laboratory
- The Materials Cluster@UC
- Toi Hangarau | Geospatial Research Institute
- Waterways Centre for Freshwater Management
- Wireless Research Centre.

Purpose-built facilities

UC's laboratories, research centres, and field stations are internationally renowned. Added to this is a brand new regional research centre, that 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.

‘At the end of my bachelor’s degree, I was awarded a UC Summer Research Scholarship. This really got me hooked on research and also gave me some connections outside of University. I studied public perceptions of a sustainable events trial with Christchurch City Council and it was definitely one of my most valuable experiences at UC.’

Emma McCone

Graduate Advisor, Ministry of Transport | Te Manatū Waka

Bachelor of Science in Geography

Master of Science in Geography



He aha ngā ara umanga mō te kaupapa Pūtaiao? Thinking about a career in Science?

Get in touch today and find out how you can take the first step. Learn about degree options, campus life, how to enrol, and more.

0800 VARSITY (827 748) liaison@canterbury.ac.nz www.canterbury.ac.nz/science