



University of Otago

INTERNATIONAL MINI GUIDE



Me he manawa tītī, me he kuaka mārangaranga. Ko te reo rāhiri, ko te reo pōwhiri e karanga atu ana ki a koutou ngā tītī, ngā kuaka, ngā manu tawhiti kia whai wāhi ai koutou ki te whenua haumako, te ākau mātauranga o Aotearoa, a ko te Whare Wānanga o Ōtāgo. Tēnā, karapinepine mai, whakarauika mai.

Ahakoā tō awhero, ahakoā tō wawata he wāhi hāneanea mōu, he ara whakamua mōu hei whakatutuki i tēnā tāu e hiahia ai. Mēnā ka whai tohu koe ki Te Kete Aronui, ki te Ture, ki te Pūtaiao, ki te Hauora, ki te Tauhokohoko rānei, ahakoā te kaupapa he wāhi mōu, he tohu mōu.

Ko te ringa āwhina ka toro atu ki a koutou, ko ngā pou taunaki ka whakaakoria, ka ārahia, ka tautokona koe ki te rere atu ki ngā karamatamata, ki ngā kōtīhitihi o te ngaru mātauranga nei.

Nā reira,
Nau mai, haere mai, tauti mai!

'A Sooty Shearwater with a stout heart, the Godwit flock rises as one'. The voice of welcome from the University of Otago calls out to you, to take rest on this rich fertile land, on this coast of knowledge. As the first university in New Zealand, the University of Otago welcomes you all.

Whatever your dreams or aspirations, they can be realised here. Whether you want to pursue Humanities, Law, Science, Medicine or Business, there is a place for you here and a qualification to suit your specialty.

At the University of Otago we have the people to teach, guide and support you to fly to the mountain tops and beyond.

Welcome, welcome, welcome.

Why Otago?

150 YEARS
1869-2019
New Zealand's first university, celebrating 150 years in 2019

151
Ranked 151st in the world
(QS World University Rankings 2017)

195+
195+ undergraduate and postgraduate programmes

16
One of the 16 most beautiful campuses in the world (Huffington Post)

20,000
20,000 students, including 2,800 international students from 100 countries

1
Top university in New Zealand for international student experience
(International Student Barometer, 2017)





SECTION

1

YOUR JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Join our international student community and study at one of the world's top universities.



NEW ZEALAND AOTEAROA

New Zealand is truly unique. It is a safe and fun destination with friendly people, easy access to the outdoors, immersive experiences and rich culture.

The country is made up of two major islands (the North and South Islands) and a number of smaller islands, including Stewart Island.

It is one of the least crowded countries in the world, with a physical size comparable to Japan and Great Britain and a population of only 4.7 million people (affectionately known as 'Kiwis').

New Zealand is renowned for its spectacular landscapes – from dramatic mountain ranges and steaming volcanoes, to sandy swimming beaches and wild, rugged coastline.

The South Island has some of New Zealand's most picturesque scenery. Beaches, glaciers, lakes, fiords, and mountains with world-class ski resorts are all easily accessible from your base in Dunedin.

Embracing visitors as whānau (family) underpins every aspect of our identity.



DUNEDIN

Most study takes place at our campus in Dunedin and we also have health sciences campuses in Christchurch and Wellington, a centre in Auckland, and a small College of Education campus in Invercargill.

Our 20,000 students make up one fifth of Dunedin's population, creating an energy and atmosphere that you'll only find at Otago. Our campus is in the heart of the city with cafés, music venues, boutiques and stores, museums and galleries only a short walk away.

When it comes to sport, Otago takes on the best in the world. The University's facilities are state-of-the-art and New Zealand's only covered sports field, Forsyth Barr Stadium, is right on our doorstep for top-level rugby and international entertainment.

But that's just the beginning.

Dunedin is surrounded by the mountains, the harbour and the sea – that means there's heaps to do and it's easy to get to. Ride the best waves in the world, take on mighty mountain biking tracks, paddle-board, kayak or sail on the harbour, or head to Central Otago for a weekend on New Zealand's top ski fields.

Dunedin is
New Zealand's
only true
student city.

dunedin
www.DunedinNZ.com





WHERE TO LIVE

Otago is famous for its residential college communities. We have 14 diverse colleges catering mostly for undergraduate students plus New Zealand's only dedicated postgraduate college. The colleges are a perfect place to develop life-long friendships in a fully-catered and supportive living and learning environment.

Flating is also an important part of university life, offering both responsibility and independence. Dunedin has a wide range of rental accommodation from historic houses to multi-unit, purpose-built complexes.

University-managed flats (UniFlats) are ideal for students coming for a single semester. They're fully furnished, walking distance from campus, and come with a local 'Kiwi-Host'. There's also a small number of flats for postgraduate students.

otago.ac.nz/accommodation

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

Support at Otago goes well beyond the classroom – students succeed here with help from a wide range of services.

- The **International Office** provides specialist support for international students, welcoming you with a tailored orientation programme and providing ongoing help and support while you're here.
- We have 24/7 campus security with our **Campus Cop** and **Campus Watch** team.
- Students with physical, psychological or learning disabilities can receive extra help from our **Disability Information and Support Office**.
- Our **Student Health** team is here to look after your physical and mental health.
- The **Work Ready Programme** will give you the confidence, knowledge and experience for a successful job search in New Zealand.
- Our **Career Development Centre** will help you find the information and opportunities you need to make the first steps on your career path.
- Our **libraries** offer an outstanding range of information services and resources to support your learning.

Find out more about the services that are available:

otago.ac.nz/student-services

“Otago is friendly and everyone is helpful ... I see it as the perfect environment for young people to move away from home and start their independence.”

Luca Karjalainen, Finland



FACILITIES

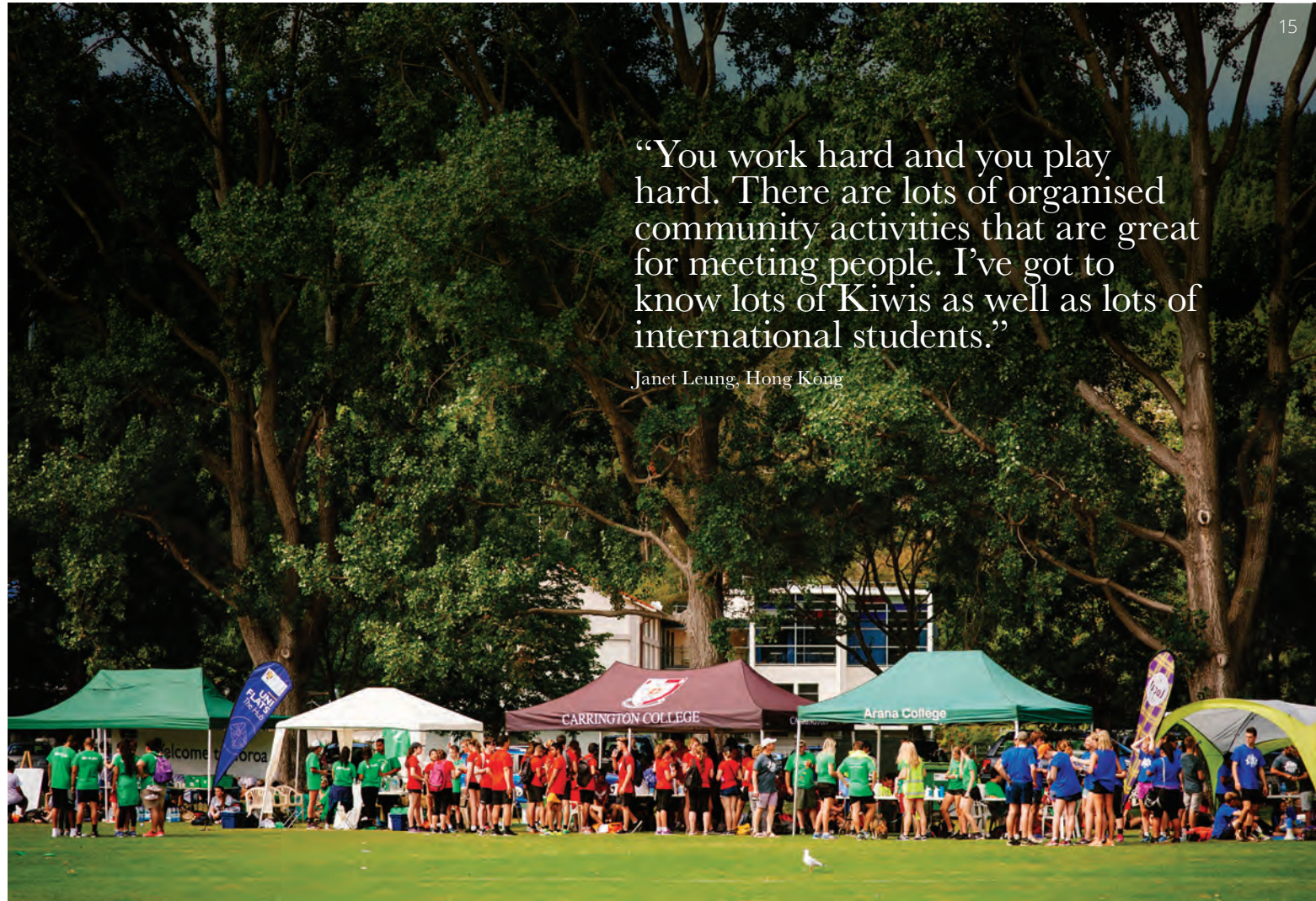
A first class education requires world-class facilities. We have state-of-the-art lecture theatres, research labs, libraries and study spaces. There's unlimited wi-fi across campus as well as computer labs that are open 24/7.

WORK HARD, PLAY HARD

The Unipol Recreation Centre is a first-class gym facility that's free for students. There's over 150 clubs and societies to choose from, or you can join a competitive or social sports team for almost any sport imaginable. There are also many off-campus outdoor courses you can do including sea kayaking, horse riding, and surfing.

“You work hard and you play hard. There are lots of organised community activities that are great for meeting people. I've got to know lots of Kiwis as well as lots of international students.”

Janet Leung, Hong Kong





SECTION

2

YOUR DEGREE

We have a great range of courses to help launch you into the career and life you want.



UNIVERSITY TERMINOLOGY 101

Your first degree is called a **bachelor's degree**, and the subject you chose to specialise in is called your **major**. You can also study a **minor** subject or a **double degree** where you complete two degrees at the same time.

Postgraduate study is more advanced, and can be completed after a bachelor's degree. Qualifications include doctorates (PhD), masters' degrees, honours degrees, postgraduate diplomas, and postgraduate certificates.

Each subject has **papers**, or courses, which are the building blocks of your degree. The papers you choose each year are your course of study. The first papers you take are 100-level, and you move on to 200-level, 300-level, and beyond in later years.

When you pass each paper you get **points** toward your degree. Papers are usually worth 18 points and a three-year degree usually needs 360 points, or 20 papers.

There are two **semesters** per year, and you can expect to study three or four papers per semester. **Teaching** includes lectures, tutorials, laboratories, and independent reading; and you will have essays, assignments and examinations (finals).

The **workload** is about 12 hours per week for each single-semester paper worth 18 points.

BUSINESS

The world in which we live and conduct business is changing, and it's changing fast! Study Business at Otago and become a leader of tomorrow, a future entrepreneur, and help the wheels of commerce turn.

Undergraduate

As a Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) student you'll get the chance to enter business competitions and entrepreneurial challenges, join the Commerce Students' Association (COMSA) for academic and social activities, and attend guest speaking and networking events with real business professionals.

Postgraduate

Gain internationally acknowledged advanced qualifications in your chosen business field. As a postgraduate student you will have access to research-informed teaching and supervision by acknowledged leaders in their fields.

Note: Not all of our postgraduate business qualifications require a business background, or background in a specific business discipline (although many do).

Subjects

Accountancy
 Business Administration*
 Business Data Science*
 Economics
 Entrepreneurship
 Finance
 Hospitality
 Human Resource Management
 Information Science
 International Business Management
 Marketing
 Sustainable Business*
 Tourism

**Postgraduate only*

HEALTH SCIENCES

Gain your qualification at New Zealand's longest-established health sciences research and teaching institution. Our graduates are respected worldwide for their clinical excellence and knowledge, and high standard of professional and ethical behaviour.

Undergraduate

Study a range of professional qualifications leading to careers such as medical practitioners, dentists, pharmacists, physiotherapists and medical laboratory scientists. The Health Sciences First Year is the gateway to a career in any of these professional programmes, and must be completed in its entirety in the first year of university study. Entrance into the second year of the professional programmes is competitive

Other undergraduate options include the Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences and the Bachelor of Health Sciences.

Postgraduate

Choose from a wide range of world-class opportunities in Health Sciences, Dentistry, Medicine, Pharmacy and Physiotherapy. Work with top-class supervisors and cutting edge researchers in internationally recognised research environments.

Subjects

Aeromedical Retrieval and Transport*
 Aviation Medicine*
 Bioethics and Health Law*
 Biomedical Sciences
 Child Health*
 Clinical Dentistry*
 Community Dentistry*
 Dental Surgery
 Dental Technology
 General Practice*
 Health Sciences
 Medical Laboratory Science
 Medical Science*
 Medical Technology*
 Medicine and Surgery
 Musculoskeletal Medicine*
 Nursing Science*
 Occupational Medicine*
 Ophthalmology*
 Oral Health
 Pharmacy
 Physiotherapy
 Primary Health Care*
 Public Health*
 Rehabilitation*
 Sport and Exercise Medicine*

**Postgraduate only*

HUMANITIES

Investigate the human world, what it means to be human, and how humans relate to their diverse and changing environments. Our humanities graduates are renowned for their communication skills, innovation, versatility, critical thinking, research and analytical skills – attributes that are essential in practically every career imaginable and sought after by employers.

Undergraduate

Choose from a broad range of subject areas and professional programmes with our Bachelor degrees. There are more than 40 subjects available through the Bachelor of Arts (BA) or train to be a lawyer, planner, minister of religion, social worker or teacher.

Postgraduate

Many Otago graduates continue to investigate the subjects they have become passionate about through postgraduate studies by thesis and/or coursework.

Subjects

Anthropology
 Archaeology
 Art History and Visual Culture
 Asian Studies
 Biblical Studies
 Buddhist Studies
 Chaplaincy*
 Chinese
 Christian Thought and History
 Classics
 Communication Studies
 Computer Science
 Criminology
 Dance
 Economics
 Education
 English
 European Studies
 Film and Media Studies
 French
 Gender Studies
 Geography
 German
 Greek
 History
 Human Services Law
 Indigenous Development/

He Kura Matanui
 Indigenous Studies*
 Information Science
 International Studies*
 Irish Studies
 Japanese
 Language and Linguistics
 Law
 Māori Studies
 Mathematics
 Ministry*
 Music
 Pacific Islands Studies
 Philosophy
 Philosophy, Politics and Economics
 Planning*
 Politics
 Popular Music
 Psychology
 Religious Studies
 Science Communication
 Social Work
 Sociology
 Spanish
 Statistics
 Theatre Studies
 Theology
 Tourism, Languages and Cultures

**Postgraduate only*



SCIENCES

Study Sciences at Otago and learn in an environment where cutting-edge research projects are under way all the time. You can't beat having the deep ocean as your lab, or classes taught under the trees of one of the world's most beautiful campuses.

Undergraduate

Study one of our cornerstone Bachelor of Science (BSc), Bachelor of Applied Science (BAppSc) or Bachelor of Arts and Science (BASc) degrees with their large choice of majors, or choose a specialised Surveying degree (BSurv).

Postgraduate

We have a wide variety of postgraduate qualifications available – some designed as professional development for people in the workforce and others offering a high level of specialisation within a particular discipline. Whichever you choose, you will be inspired by the very best research opportunities.

Subjects

Anatomy
 Applied Statistics*
 Applied Geology
 Aquaculture and Fisheries
 Biochemistry
 Botany
 Chemistry
 Computational Modelling
 Computer Science
 Consumer Food Science
 Dietetics*
 Ecology
 Economics
 Electronics
 Energy Management
 Energy Science and Technology
 Environmental Management
 Exercise and Sport Science**
 Food Science
 Forensic Analytical Science
 Genetics
 Geographic Information Systems
 Geography
 Geology
 Human Nutrition
 Information Science

Land Planning and Development
 Marine Science*
 Mathematics
 Microbiology
 Molecular Biotechnology
 Neuroscience
 Oceanography
 Pharmacology
 Physical Activity and Health**
 Physics
 Physiology
 Plant Biotechnology
 Psychology
 Science Communication*
 Software Engineering
 Sport and Exercise Nutrition
 Sport Development and Management**
 Sports Technology
 Statistics
 Surveying
 Surveying Measurement
 Telecommunications
 Wildlife Management*
 Zoology

**Postgraduate only*

***Subject to approval*





SECTION

3

YOUR DEGREE

You need a university
entrance qualification for
admission to Otago.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Undergraduate

A university entrance qualification is essential for admission to the University of Otago for all types of programmes.

We recognise many other qualifications as equivalent to the New Zealand qualification for undergraduate entrance. Visit our website to check if we recognise your previous studies:

otago.ac.nz/future-students

We also accept the following international qualifications:

- International Baccalaureate: IB Diploma with a minimum of 26 points.
- GCE Advanced Levels: minimum grade of 8.
- Satisfactory completion of one year's study at an approved tertiary institution.

Selection into Health Sciences Professional Programmes is limited and occurs after the completion of Health Sciences First Year.

Postgraduate

Entrance requirements vary by programme with most requiring a minimum bachelor-level qualification in the same field, and some having additional requirements such as relevant work experience or professional registration in New Zealand.

A postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma can usually be taken at any time after the completion of your bachelor's degree.

If you hold an honours degree or postgraduate diploma you may be eligible for master's study by thesis only. If you hold a bachelor's degree you may be able to apply for a coursework master's degree or for master's study by coursework and thesis.

To study a PhD you usually require the completion of a master's degree, or a first-class or upper second-class honours degree in the same area of study, or a related discipline, as your intended area of research.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

If your first language is not English you need to show you meet our English language requirements.

In most cases you need an IELTS score of 6.0 in the academic module (with no individual band below 6.0) for undergraduate study, and for postgraduate study you need an IELTS score of 6.5 in the academic module (with no individual band below 6.0). Some programmes have a higher IELTS score.

We accept a number of other international tests and results, and students from some countries may be able to use their previous studies to demonstrate their language level. Check the language results we accept:

otago.ac.nz/future-students

DON'T MEET THE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS?

To help students achieve their goal of studying at Otago, the University of Otago Language Centre and Foundation Year (UOLCFY) offers a pathway for students to meet the entrance requirements. It also provides an excellent preparation for academic study at the University of Otago.

The English for Otago programme provides excellent preparation for academic study in an English-speaking environment.

Graduates of the 26-week Foundation Year programme are guaranteed entry to their chosen University of Otago first-year course.

otago.ac.nz/uolcfy

WHAT WILL IT COST?

Undergraduate programme fees range from about \$25,000 to \$40,000 per year depending on the degree and papers you study. The cost for Dentistry and Medicine programmes are higher at about \$78,000 to \$95,000 per year.

Postgraduate programme fees range from about \$20,000 to \$65,000 per year depending on the degree and papers you study, and if enrolment is for more or less than a normal full-time course.

You will also need to allow for textbooks and fieldtrips, and all the social, sporting, community and cultural events that Otago has to offer.

Accommodation in a residential college is around \$14,500 for the academic year and living costs in Dunedin are generally lower than in bigger cities.



SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are a great way to fund your study. Otago offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships, and there are external scholarships you may be eligible to apply for.

Check out the full range of scholarships on our website:

otago.ac.nz/scholarships

“The University of Otago is a gateway to your dreams.”

Khushboo Soni, India



ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Code of Practice

Otago is bound by the Education (Pastoral Care of International Students) Code of Practice 2016 published by the Minister of Tertiary Education.

minedu.govt.nz

Student visa

You need to be granted a student visa before entering New Zealand and continue to hold a valid student visa throughout your enrolment period at the University of Otago.

immigration.govt.nz/study

Work rights

International students may be granted work rights of up to 20 hours a week during the academic year and full time during all scheduled holidays and/or during the summer holiday period. There's no restriction for research masters' or doctoral students.

Once you complete your qualification you may apply for the 12 month Post Study Work Visa – Open.

immigration.govt.nz/work

Medical and travel insurance

All international students are required to have comprehensive health and travel insurance while in New Zealand. The University of Otago's recommended policy is Studentsafe Inbound University.

otago.ac.nz/international/healthcare.html

Accident insurance

The Accident Compensation Corporation provides accident insurance for all New Zealand citizens, residents and temporary visitors to New Zealand, but you may still be liable for all other medical and related costs.

KEY DATES

18 – 22 February

First semester international student orientation

25 February

First semester begins

1 April

Applications open for accommodation for second semester

30 April

International student applications close for study beginning in second semester

31 May

Applications close for postgraduate Dentistry programmes for study beginning in the following academic year

5 – 19 June

First semester examinations

1 – 5 July

Second semester international student orientation

8 July

Second semester begins

1 August

Applications open for first semester and full-year accommodation

15 September

Applications due for Bachelor of Oral Health and Bachelor of Dental Technology programmes

27 September

Applications for a place in a residential college should be submitted

16 October – 9 November

End-of-year examinations

31 October

International student applications close for study beginning in first semester

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

Get started on your journey to studying at the University of Otago.

Complete the form online and one of our friendly team will contact you to help you apply to study at Otago as an international student:

otago.ac.nz/internationalenquiries

You can also speak to an authorised education agent in your home country:

otago.ac.nz/international/agents

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This booklet is intended as a general guide for international students. The content was up-to-date and accurate at the time of publication but is subject to change. The University reserves the right to add, amend or withdraw programmes and facilities, to restrict student numbers and make any other alterations as may be necessary.

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▲ Dunedin