

# CHTH236



Māori Religion and Theology

## Short Course Description

Lecturer: Professor Murray Rae and Guest Presenters

### **Brief Introduction to the Paper**

This paper explores Māori theology and religion, especially Māori encounters with and adaptations of Christianity. It is taught as a five-day residential intensive course in the unique setting of Te Maungarongo marae at Ōhope, near Whakatane. Te Maungarongo is the name of the carved meeting house that brings Biblical stories into conversation with stories from the Māori world. The carvings, tukutuku panels and kowhaiwhai decoration of the meeting house are a rich part of student experience in the course. The topics covered included a survey of the missionary era, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the development of the Māori prophetic movements, and the interweaving of wisdom from the Christian and Māori worlds.

Assignments for the course are completed during the following semester.

### **Assessment**

The course is assessed through three pieces of written work worth 20%, 30%, and 50% of your total grade for the paper.

### **Teaching Schedule**

All the teaching is undertaken at a one-week compulsory block course at Te Maungarongo marae.

### **Learning Outcomes**

Students who successfully complete this paper will:

- Show familiarity with traditional Māori religious thought and practice.
- Understand the historical threads of engagement between Māori and Christian missionaries and develop the capacity to critically analyse the impact and consequences of that engagement.

- Be able to offer an informed account of selected Māori adaptations of Christianity, particularly those associated with the Māori prophets.
- Develop understanding of the distinct insight and enrichment of Christian theology brought about through the influence of mātauranga and kaupapa Māori.

### **For more information**

Please direct any administrative enquiries to the Theology Administrator:

[theology@otago.ac.nz](mailto:theology@otago.ac.nz)

Phone: 03 479 8639