

University of Canterbury

The University of Canterbury (UC) is a world class teaching and research university of approximately 17,000 students located in Christchurch, the largest city in New Zealand's South Island. UC offers a comprehensive range of courses across over 100 programmes of study and welcomes Study Abroad students from around the world.

WHAT'S UNIQUE ABOUT THE UC STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMME?

- **South Island location and experience** – the South Island is home to some of New Zealand's most spectacular and iconic landscapes and is widely renowned as the heart of the New Zealand experience. As New Zealand's second largest city, Christchurch is the major hub of the South Island and centrally located as a gateway for students to explore the huge "outdoor playground" which is the South Island. The diversity of landscapes in the South Island range from mountains to beaches, forests, glaciers and fiords, and Christchurch's proximity to both ocean and mountains (20 minutes from the beach and 1.5 hours from mountains and numerous ski fields) means it's even possible to surf and ski in the same day.
- **Experiential learning** - A key objective for UC is to ensure that our Study Abroad students are integrated as much as possible into their new community while studying abroad in New Zealand, as well as gaining real world and leadership experience. To this end UC offers a range of experiential learning options which take students beyond the classroom, and allows them to fully interact and engage with the New Zealand community and environment. These experiential offerings include, among others, service learning, internships, and field study around the South Island.
- **Internships** – UC offers a for-credit internship course, PACE 295, in which students intern with a local New Zealand organisation or business on a special project under the supervision of a specialist lecturer. Past projects have encompassed a diverse range of internships, covering (among many others) such areas as social entrepreneurship, filmmaking or GIS mapping through to environmental and sustainability projects and media and communication for major national companies.
- **Scholarship programme for Study Abroad partners:** UC offers a number of awards for Study Abroad students to assist with the cost of learning abroad.
- **Community engagement and service learning**– UC's maxim of "People Prepared to Make a Difference" reflects the unique focus on community engagement which is one of UC's core graduate attributes. The Student Volunteer Army is the largest club on campus and engages at both the global and local level, from volunteering within Christchurch to engagement with youth mobilising in community engagement initiatives around the world. Our service learning course (*CHCH101 Strengthening Communities through Social Innovation*), which studies community engagement and integrates hands-on community service, is also a core academic component of this community focus.
- **Relationship focus:** We pride ourselves on creating strong relationships with our partners. Our Study Abroad team personally looks after all aspects of our partnerships, including managing the partnership, working with students and partners prior to arrival, processing applications for admission within the team and co-ordinating pre-approval of courses. This

enables us to oversee a smooth transition for students coming to study at UC and allows our partners to develop an ongoing relationship with UC staff who they know well and trust.

POINTS OF PRIDE

World class research and teaching

- Top 1% of Universities worldwide (QS World University Rankings)
- UC was also the first university in New Zealand to receive a five-star rating from QS Stars. A typical five-star university is generally world class in a broad range of areas, enjoys a high reputation and has cutting-edge facilities and a renowned research and teaching faculty. UC has received a five-star rating for Engineering and Technology, Research, Teaching, Infrastructure and Internationalisation.
- UC's Business programme is Triple Crown accredited, placing it in the top one percent of business schools globally.
- A world renowned Engineering programme, accredited under the Washington Accord. UC is ranked 9th in the world for Civil Engineering in the Academic World Ranking of Universities and is the only New Zealand university to be a member of the global Engineering Exchange programme Global E3.
- A highly research focused university, UC has over 40 recognised research centres, institutes and hubs.
- UC's Erskine visiting fellowship programme attracts up to 75 international academic lecturers each year, such as Nobel Prize winners Emeritus Professor Clive Granger and Professor Bob Grubbs. Erskine visiting academics teach into undergraduate courses, meaning that Study Abroad students also directly benefit from the teaching of these visiting fellows. Our staff exchange programme also brings in academics from universities around the world, including Oxford and Cambridge.

Student Experience

- With over 160 clubs, UC has the largest number of student clubs of any New Zealand university, including sporting, community, social, performing arts, religious and international clubs. The Canterbury University Snow Sports club is the only university club in New Zealand to own a ski field lodge, at the Temple Basin Ski Field.
- UC is committed to biculturalism. As part of this commitment we work closely with Ngāi Tahu, the indigenous people of the South Island region. The Ngāi Tahu Research Centre (NTRC) was founded as a joint initiative between Ngāi Tahu and UC for the purpose of being a leader in indigenous scholarship and to provide a centre for the intellectual capital and development of Ngāi Tahu, the principal Māori tribe of the southern region of New Zealand. Students can also take courses in Maori language, history, culture and art.
- UC has a full range of support services on campus, including a dedicated Student Care team as well as a Health Centre, an Academic Skills Centre and Disability Resource Service. The Recreation Centre is free to use for all Study Abroad students.

ACADEMIC OFFERINGS

UC offers a comprehensive range of courses, with more than 2000 courses and 100 programmes across Arts (Social Sciences and Humanities); Business; Law; Science; Engineering; and Education, Health and Human Development. Course and subject listings are available [here](#) by using the drop down “Search by Subject” menu at the left of the page.

Of particular interest may be the following, including for elective courses:

- An **internship** course, PACE 295, which offers Study Abroad students the chance to intern with a New Zealand business or community organisation. This is a for-credit course, which is the equivalent of one full course at UC.
- **A Triple Crown Accredited Business School**
- A broad range of **liberal arts** courses, encompassing humanities and social sciences and including a School of Music. The School of Maori and Indigenous Studies also offers an extensive selection of courses in Maori culture, history and language, providing Study Abroad students with the opportunity to engage with the culture of New Zealand.
- UC has a strong **Centre for Entrepreneurship**, which typically engages with more than 500 students each year and supports the development of a large number of student run ventures. The course *INOV 290 Enterprise in Practice* provides students with a platform to apply their academic skills to a practical project, working on their own start up or undertaking a project for a local business or social enterprise.
- **A leading STEM destination** – UC is well known for our STEM programmes. The University also has access to an extensive network of science field stations - more than any other university in New Zealand - and makes use of its South Island location which acts as a natural laboratory for field sciences, with close proximity to ocean, mountains, forests, lakes and glaciers. Many courses in the sciences in areas such as Biology, Geology, Environmental Science and Forestry therefore include field work in the unique South Island setting.

Study Abroad students can select undergraduate courses from across UC’s extensive course offerings, provided they have the necessary academic background. Course capacity is open and there are very few restrictions on course places. Areas restricted to Study Abroad students are Studio Art courses, clinical practice courses and some Teacher Education courses.

UC can also pre-approve courses for Study Abroad students to provide certainty for home university credit. Semesters in New Zealand run from February to June (Semester 1) and July to November (Semester 2).

GUARANTEED HOUSING FOR STUDY ABROAD STUDENTS

UC is the only fully purpose-built, self-contained residential campus in New Zealand. A special housing package is offered for Study Abroad and Exchange students, at Ilam Apartments on campus. Housing on campus is guaranteed for all Study Abroad students who apply for accommodation by the housing deadline.

Ilam Apartments provides modern, self-catered apartments with spacious single bedrooms. Students have their own bedroom (not shared) and share kitchen, living and bathroom facilities with 4 or 5 other students. A large supermarket is very close by and the housing is also a short walk from shops, cafes, banks and other amenities. Ilam Apartments is home to both international and New Zealand students.

Contact:

Anna Foster

Study Abroad and Exchange Manager

International Relationships Office

University of Canterbury

anna.foster@canterbury.ac.nz