POSTGRADUATE 2024/2025

Education and Social Work

Education | Teaching | Social Work | Counselling | Social and Community Leadership | Professional Supervision
Choosing postgraduate study with the University of Auckland’s Faculty of Education and Social Work is a valuable investment in your future and the futures of those you work with. Whether you choose to study a postgraduate taught or research programme, you can expect to challenge your thinking, build new knowledge, and further develop your skills.

Enhance your potential and advance your career

Study with us and enhance your ability to make a difference for others whilst improving your career and employment opportunities, so you can stand out from the crowd in a competitive employment market. Postgraduate qualifications may also qualify you for a higher salary status, or position you for leadership opportunities and responsibilities in your current role. By enabling you to learn new skills, advance your knowledge or specialise in an area of interest, a postgraduate qualification can open up limitless possibilities for personal and professional growth.

Flexible study options to suit working professionals

We understand the demands on busy professionals and the need to balance study with work and other commitments. That’s why we have developed a range of taught programmes that can be studied part-time with flexible delivery options. Many of our courses are offered in the evening, online, during the school holidays (block intensive) or as a blend of face-to-face and online study.

Relevant learning, connected to practice

Our lecturers and researchers within the faculty have strong partnerships and ongoing collaboration with policymakers, official registration boards, professional and subject associations, and employers in the community. These relationships ensure that what you learn is linked to current issues and trends in policy, practice, research and evaluation. You will be challenged to ask the critical questions, explore opportunities for innovation and develop thought leadership and expertise in your field.

*1st in New Zealand and 68th in the world, QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2023

Find out more
auckland.ac.nz/edsw
Education Programmes

Initial Teacher Education

Do you want to become a teacher in Aotearoa New Zealand, or work in education? Our graduate programmes will equip you with the skills, knowledge, and practical experience to start your career as a qualified teacher in your chosen sector. Choose from one of our three graduate diploma specialisations to become a provisionally certificated teacher. These programmes are a full year of study from January to November, available full- and part-time. You can also choose between on-campus or online study to fit around your schedule.

auckland.ac.nz/becometeacher

Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Early Childhood Education)

Begin a rewarding career influencing children’s vital early years. Equip yourself with the knowledge and skills to support young children in their learning and development in their vital early years. Gain hands-on experience during practical placements, supported by accomplished teachers and university supervisors and learn how to teach in a range of modern early childhood settings.

auckland.ac.nz/earlychildhood

Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Primary)

Begin a fulfilling career in primary and intermediate education where teachers are in high demand and play a key role in inspiring young people with a love of learning. As a primary teacher, you’ll teach a wide range of subject areas, while sharing your passion for specialised subjects such as sport, sciences, the arts and culture. This practical programme, taught by experts in primary education, will qualify you to become a provisionally certificated teacher in primary and intermediate schools (Year 1-8).

auckland.ac.nz/primary

Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Secondary)

Share your passion for a subject and inspire generations of young learners. This highly practical programme is the best preparation for teaching and will qualify you to become a provisionally-certificated teacher (Year 9 – 13). It is taught by experts in secondary education and lecturers who are specialists in their subjects. Whether you are adding a year to your existing degree or returning to study to make a change, this programme will prepare you for a rewarding career you’ll love.

auckland.ac.nz/secondary

“Seeing how competent the young children were throughout the practicums was magnificent.”

“Before studying, I did not know that play was integral to early childhood education. Every opportunity, including play, should be a chance for children to evolve. As I continue my journey, I can’t wait to apply these things I have learnt.

“The teaching team at the University of Auckland was such an enthusiastic team of experts who obviously love teaching. Engaging with the university environment, along with support from lecturers has set my foundational skills.

“I accepted a job at the centre where I completed my last practicum. I’m so looking forward to working there and developing myself as a teacher.”

Ashika Singh
Graduate Diploma in Teaching (Early Childhood Education)

auckland.ac.nz/ece
Teachers and Educators

**Master of Education**

120 points: One year full-time (two years part-time)
180 points: One-and-a-half years full-time (part-time available)

Deepen your understanding of education and professional practice, inquire into an education area of interest and contribute valuable knowledge and understanding to your field. With multiple specialisations, this programme is suitable for those working in a wide range of education areas. Choose between taught and research options.

[Read more on auckland.ac.nz/med](auckland.ac.nz/med)

**New specialisation: Master of Education (Early Childhood Education)**

Through a range of courses that are designed and delivered by internationally recognised researchers and academics, develop innovative and research-informed expertise to engage effectively with young children, families and communities.

[Read more on auckland.ac.nz/med-ec](auckland.ac.nz/med-ec)

**Master of Education Practice**

120 points: One year full-time (part-time varies)
180 points: One-and-a-half years full-time (part-time varies)

Equip yourself with world-leading research, knowledge, and tools to help enhance your own teaching practice. Designed for practising teachers, this taught programme will help you better achieve positive and equitable outcomes for diverse communities and learners.

[Read more on auckland.ac.nz/medprac](auckland.ac.nz/medprac)

**Master of Professional Studies in Mathematics Education**

120 points: One year full-time (part-time varies)

The professional focus of this programme will allow you to review, inform and improve your knowledge and professional practice. Choose from a range of courses covering a range of mathematic topics to sharpen the skills and knowledge necessary to progress in your career.

[Read more on auckland.ac.nz/mprofstuds-ed](auckland.ac.nz/mprofstuds-ed)

**Postgraduate Diploma in Education**

120 points: One year full-time (part-time varies)

Advance your career through further study in education and professional practice. This programme will build on your knowledge by exploring and investigating applied areas of education. You can choose to study the general diploma or pick one of three unique specialisations to focus on: Literacy Education, Inclusive Education or Early Childhood Education.

[Read more on auckland.ac.nz/pgdiped](auckland.ac.nz/pgdiped)

**Postgraduate Certificate in Education**

60 points: Half year full-time (part-time varies)

Complete two 30-point courses from a wide variety, to focus on an area of interest or practice in education. Designed to be taken part-time, flexible delivery options and learning modes will allow you to continue to focus on your work while you build your understanding, professional practice, and expertise.

[Read more on auckland.ac.nz/pgcerted](auckland.ac.nz/pgcerted)

**Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching Linguistically Diverse Learners**

60 points: Two years part-time (only available part-time)

Designed to be taken part-time alongside work for early childhood, primary and secondary teachers. This programme will enhance your skills for teaching English learners from diverse language backgrounds.

[Read more on auckland.ac.nz/pgcerttldl](auckland.ac.nz/pgcerttldl)

**Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching Linguistically Diverse Learners**

120 points: Two to four years part-time (Two compulsory year-long courses plus electives. Only available part-time)

Choose from a range of courses exploring theories of bilingual/multilingual education, curriculum and assessment materials, education policy, and/or explore theory and research. This programme will enhance your skills to help your English language learners reach their full potential, develop your research capabilities and equip you with the skills to innovate and exhibit leadership in your professional context.

[Read more on auckland.ac.nz/pgdiptldl](auckland.ac.nz/pgdiptldl)

**Bachelor of Education (Teaching) Honours**

120 points: One year full-time (part-time varies)

Add depth to your undergraduate degree and answer your burning questions by focusing on a specific area of education at an advanced level. Your research topic will relate to beliefs about teaching and learning held by teachers, parents, children or whānau. This qualification can lead to advanced salary status as a teacher in Aotearoa New Zealand. If you meet the criteria, it can also lead directly to study at doctoral level, making this programme the quickest route to doctoral studies.

[Read more on auckland.ac.nz/bedtchg-hons](auckland.ac.nz/bedtchg-hons)
Educational Leadership

Master of Educational Leadership

120 points: Full-time and part-time varies
180 points: Full-time and part-time varies

Understand, critique, and contribute to culturally responsive educational leadership that is shaping Aotearoa to improve the quality of education for all young people. Designed for aspiring or current educational leaders with flexibility of study in mine and online options.

auckland.ac.nz/medld

Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership

120 points: One year full-time (part-time varies)

Choose from a range of courses as well as opportunities for workplace projects to develop your skills, knowledge, and leadership capabilities to meet the need for high-quality, equitable learning opportunities for all children. This programme can be taken as a stand-alone qualification or as a pathway into the Masters of Educational Leadership.

auckland.ac.nz/pgdipedld

Education as an Arts Subject

Masters of Arts in Education

120 points: One year full-time, two years part-time
180 points: One and a half years full-time (part-time varies)

Pursue in-depth research in an educational area of your choice and work closely with university staff who are specialists in their field. Choose from advanced-level courses and research topics covering a wide range of education areas.

auckland.ac.nz/ma

PG Diploma in Arts (Education)

120 points: One year full-time (up to four years part-time)

Enhance your career potential by sharpening your transferable skills and specialist knowledge. An alternative to the Bachelor of Arts (Honours).

auckland.ac.nz/pgdiparts

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Education

120 points: One year full-time (up to two-years part-time)

Deepen your knowledge in small classes with some of New Zealand’s leading scholars. Learn about the nature of education and the impact of current educational initiatives, both in New Zealand and internationally.

auckland.ac.nz/ba-hons

“I’ve really enjoyed delving into research and literature in the areas of education I am interested in, particularly inclusive practices.”

“It was important for me to include this in my programme of study because it is key to my role as Learning Support Coordinator (LSC).

“Throughout the programme we learnt about various strategies and resources that would best support our neurodivergent tamariki and their whānau to experience success and to feel like valued members of a school community in schools across Aotearoa New Zealand. We also deepened our understanding of language and how certain words have negative connotations attached to them.

“Finally, and most importantly, we learnt that neurodiversity is positive and should not be seen through a deficit lens. Individuality and uniqueness are valuable!”

Danielle Wilson
Master of Education (Practice)

auckland.ac.nz/edsw/pg-stories
Social Work and Community Leadership

Social and Community Leadership

Master of Social and Community Leadership

180 points: One and a half-years full time (part-time varies)

Designed for curious and committed practitioners, this flexible programme will enable you to develop innovative solutions that are sustained by robust leadership knowledge. With online and on-campus options, choose between the taught or research masters and build your practise while advancing positive social and community change.

auckland.ac.nz/mscl

PG Certificate in Social and Community Leadership

60 points: Part-time varies

Advance your skills in social and community leadership and build your ability to lead and innovate across community, government, not-for-profit and social-good sectors. Take courses in leadership, ethics and systems, social innovation, evaluation and programme design to take your career to new levels.

auckland.ac.nz/pgcertscl

Social Work

Master of Social Work (Professional)

240 points: Two years full-time (part-time varies)

Become a qualified social worker with this two-year programme. Combining lectures, research, laboratories, practical placements, investigations and group work, you will graduate with the skills to be a critical and reflective practitioner who is able to contribute to any field of social work practice.

auckland.ac.nz/mswprof

Master of Social Work

120 points: Full-time and part-time varies
240 points: Full-time and part-time varies

Designed for qualified social workers to enhance your practice and professional responsibility, this programme will develop your knowledge with advanced approaches and interventions in social work. Choose from the 120 or 240 Research Masters.

auckland.ac.nz/msw

PG Diploma in Social Work

120 points: One year full-time (part-time varies)

Enhance your professional learning and development by examining current research in social work while learning advanced approaches and interventions to enhance your practice. Study this programme as a standalone qualification or as a pathway to the Master of Social Work.

auckland.ac.nz/pgdipsw

Professional Supervision

Master of Professional Supervision

180 points: One-and-a-half years full-time

Designed for working professionals with at least three years’ experience in a field of practice, you will have the opportunity to learn and reflect alongside course colleagues from a broad range of social care and allied health professions. Throughout the programme you will examine the role of professional supervision, growing knowledge, skills and confidence in supervision within your own professional and organisational context.

auckland.ac.nz/mprofsup

Master of Professional Supervision (Practice)

180 points: One-and-a-half years full-time

Designed for working professionals with at least three years’ experience in a field of practice, advance your knowledge, skills, awareness and critical reflection towards effective supervision. Throughout the programme you will examine the role of professional supervision, critically analysing and integrating theoretical perspectives, contemporary literature, policy and practice to grow your skills within your own professional and organisational context.

auckland.ac.nz/mprofsupprac
"I had the privilege of working with an exceptional supervisor whose guidance was instrumental in every phase of my research journey."

“Throughout the programme, there were two standout moments for me. The first one was successfully publishing an article in a leading social work journal in Aotearoa during my studies - an achievement considering the rigorous publication process.

“The other was serving as a Graduate Teaching Assistant, this allowed me to develop teaching, course design, tutoring, and student support skills, enhancing my academic journey.

“My supervisor’s belief in the potential impact of my project on social work practice in Aotearoa inspired me to strive for excellence. Furthermore, I am grateful for the invaluable support from the community organisations and participants who contributed to my research data. Their willingness to share their experiences and perspectives was crucial in shaping the findings of my study.

“I was also fortunate that the school established a vibrant research community, offering regular workshops and networking events tailored for postgraduate research students. These opportunities helped alleviate feelings of loneliness and provided a supportive environment where I could connect with peers, share experiences, and navigate the research journey together.”

While pursuing a PhD remains a possibility for Spar’s future, he is currently focused on gaining further experience in various levels of social work practice.

“Returning to the field will allow me to deepen my understanding and refine my skills, ultimately contributing to my professional growth and effectiveness as a social worker.

“To anyone thinking of embarking on a Master of Social Work, my advice is to build and maintain good relationships with your supervisor(s) and the school, which can open doors to invaluable opportunities and resources throughout your academic and professional journey.

“Embrace the diverse perspectives and insights the programme offers - it will enrich your understanding and broaden your horizons.”

Spar Wong
Master of Social Work graduate
PG Diploma in Professional Supervision

120 points: One year full-time (part-time varies)

Designed for working professionals who want to take their supervision skills to the next level. The strong focus on reflective practice will enhance your clinical and professional supervision skills while learning alongside practitioners from a wide range of professions.

[link to auckland.ac.nz/pgdipprofsup]

PG Certificate in Professional Supervision

60 points: Part-time varies

Develop your clinical and professional supervision skills through short block-courses and online flexible, self-directed study with feedback from peers and lecturers. You’ll examine the concept, role, purpose and benefits of supervision in a wide range of professions to help elevate your supervisor skills.

[link to auckland.ac.nz/pgcertprofsup]

Counselling

Master of Counselling

120 points: Full-time and part-time varies
240 points: Full-time and part-time varies

Designed for professionals already working in teaching, nursing, social work or other related professions who wish to transition into counselling or working councillors who wish to advance their practice, this highly regarded postgraduate qualification will provide opportunities to examine and develop the inter-related components essential to effective counselling practice. Choose between a research or taught masters.

[link to auckland.ac.nz/mcouns]

Postgraduate Diploma in Counseling Theory

120 points: One year full-time (part-time varies)

If you have a bachelor’s degree in education, counselling, nursing or social work and at least three years’ practical experience, this programme can broaden and advance your career. Gain comprehensive knowledge of the theory and research that underpin counselling practice and develop the skills necessary for effective counselling with diverse clients. This programme is also a pathway to the Master of Counselling.

[link to auckland.ac.nz/pgdipcounsth]

“"My work is all about helping people to reach their potential, so creating productive relationships, leading others and understanding people are all crucial skills.”

"The Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Supervision has allowed me to build on these areas while developing connections and boosting my confidence.

"I knew the University of Auckland was a great place to study because it’s where I had completed my undergraduate degree and postgraduate study has given me a deeper insight into the work that I do.

"The best part of the programme was the excellent facilitation and expertise of the lecturers. I learnt a lot from my fellow students through interactive exercises and developed quickly through helpful feedback from my lecturers.

"The flexibility and format of classes make the certificate very manageable for full-time workers – I’d definitely recommend it to anyone who wants to develop in supervision, management or coaching roles.”

Rebecca Webster
Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Supervision

[link to auckland.ac.nz/edsw/pg-stories]
Regional Development

Master of Regional Development

120 points: Full-time and part-time varies
240 points: Full-time and part-time varies

Developed specifically to draw on interfaculty expertise, the Master of Regional Development will prepare you for advanced professional responsibility in a variety of regional development roles. You will have the opportunity to critically engage with bodies of advanced scholarly knowledge and underlying principles, with a focus on environmental, educational and social policy, programme design, development, and evaluation.

[Link to Master of Regional Development](auckland.ac.nz/mregdev)

Postgraduate Certificate in Regional Development

60 points: 6 months full-time

Taught in a blended/online format where possible, this programme comprises two compulsory 15-point core courses, and one 30-point or two 15-point elective courses. It will provide those looking to enter the field of regional and iwi policy in Aotearoa New Zealand and internationally, with the latest academic and policy expertise and provides pathways to further study.

[Link to Postgraduate Certificate in Regional Development](auckland.ac.nz/pgcertregdev)

Doctoral programmes

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Education

120 points per year full-time study
Full-time: 3 to 4 years
Part-time: 6 to 8 years

Join New Zealand’s leading University for Education* for your doctoral study. Expand and develop your personal, professional and academic skills to help improve the educational and social wellbeing of communities.

[Link to Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Education](auckland.ac.nz/edsw/phd)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Social Work

120 points per year full-time study
Full-time: 3 to 4 years
Part-time: 6 to 8 years

Join a community of high-calibre academics whose expertise spans teaching, scholarship, research, and practice in the main disciplines of social work, counselling, disability support and youth work.

[Link to Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Social Work](auckland.ac.nz/edsw/phd)

Doctor of Education (EdD)

360 points: Part-time varies

A unique cohort-based professional doctorate programme where students work with cohort lecturers for the first two years and then with their own research supervisors. Designed to be taken part-time, this programme will enable you to generate new knowledge to advance educational practice and policy in Aotearoa New Zealand and other contexts.

For latest cohort information visit the link below.

[Link to Doctor of Education (EdD)](auckland.ac.nz/edd)

*QS World Rankings 2024
How to apply

Non Doctoral Programme
For more information about entry requirements and assistance with completing your application for postgraduate studies, click link below.

auckland.ac.nz/edsw/pg-study

Doctoral Programme
For more information about entry requirements and assistance with completing your doctoral application, click link below.

auckland.ac.nz/applydoctorate

Apply now

auckland.ac.nz/apply

Student Hubs
The Student Hubs are your physical gateway to Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland. The Student Hubs services are available seven days a week at the City, Grafton and Tai Tonga campuses and six days a week at Tai Tokerau, with friendly staff available to provide you with advice on any aspect of your studies and life at the University.

auckland.ac.nz/student-hubs

Any Questions
If you have any questions, simply fill out this form:

auckland.ac.nz/askus