

Natalie Blair Memorial Summer Scholarship in Archaeology

Code:	996
Faculty:	Arts and Education
Applicable study:	SUMRESCH 301
Closing date:	30 July 2026
Tenure:	Duration of project 400 hours (approximately 10 weeks)
For:	Assistance
Number on offer:	Two
Offer rate:	Annually
Value:	\$6,750 paid as a fortnightly stipend

Description

The Scholarship was established in 2018 and is funded by Sir Roderick and Gillian, Lady Deane through the Deane Endowment Trust in memory of Lady Deane's cousin Natalie Blair.

The main purpose of the Scholarship is to give current international and domestic university students an opportunity to experience research in archaeology related to the Ahuahu Great Mercury Island project, and to thereby encourage them to pursue or continue postgraduate study at Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland.

Selection process

- A Selection Committee assesses candidates short-listed from eligible applications for the University of Auckland Summer Research Scholarship
- Nomination is made to the Scholarships Office
- The Scholarship is awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee

Regulations

1. The Scholarship shall be known as the Natalie Blair Memorial Summer Scholarship in Archaeology.
2. Up to two Scholarships will be awarded annually and will be of the value of \$6,750, paid as a fortnightly stipend. The Scholarship is payable within the period of November to February inclusive.
3. All students are required to apply for admission to the Summer Research Scholarships programme. Awardees will be enrolled in the Summer Research course SUMRESCH 301, and are expected to conduct a research project of approximately 10 weeks duration (400 hours) under the supervision of an academic staff member (see Notes II and III).
4. The Scholarship is tenable by domestic and international students (see Notes IV and V).
5. To be eligible for Scholarship consideration, an applicant must i) be enrolled in the Faculty of Arts and Education in a Bachelor of Arts (BA), a Bachelor of Arts conjoint degree, a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (BA(Hons)), a Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (PGDipArts), of the first year of a 240 point Master of Arts, in Anthropology (see Regulation 8), ii) have completed at least two years of equivalent full-time study in an undergraduate degree at the time of take-up of

the award, and iii) have applied for a University of Auckland Summer Research Scholarship in the Faculty of Arts and Education. A Scholarships grade point average (GPA) of at least 5.50 (5.00 for Māori applicants or Pacific applicants) in the applicant's two most recent years of full-time study (or equivalent) is required for Scholarship consideration (see Note VI).

6. The basis for selection will be academic merit measured by Scholarship GPA, applicant interest in further study and the alignment of the applicant's academic and/or professional profile with the proposed research topic in Archaeology related to the Ahuahu Great Mercury Island project. In order to assess applications, supporting documentation (as detailed in any guidelines and application forms), including but not limited to CV, personal and/or project statement, and writing sample, may be requested.
7. The Scholarship will be awarded by the University of Auckland Council on the recommendation of the Selection Committee comprised of the Head of the School of Social Sciences (or nominee), the Major/Specialisation Leader of Anthropology (or nominee) and a representative of the donors.
8. To be paid the Scholarship, awardees must not a) be seeking employment as tutors during Summer School or be in paid employment inside the University during the tenure of their Scholarship, or b) have commenced the thesis year of a masters or a doctoral programme, or a taught postgraduate programme (other than those permitted under Regulation 5), by the start date of the Summer Research Scholarship, or c) commence the thesis year of a masters or a doctoral programme, or a taught postgraduate programme (other than those permitted under Regulation 5), during the tenure of the Scholarship or d) be completing a dissertation or thesis on extension.
9. Awardees may undertake up to 100 hours paid work external to the University of Auckland over the duration of the Scholarship (i.e. up to 10 hours per week), subject to the approval of the project supervisor.
10. Awardees will be required to observe the research plan and frequency of meetings as agreed with their supervisors at the start of the project; failure to do so will result in forfeiture of this Scholarship.
11. Awardees will be required to be co-located in the same town as their supervisor for the period of the scholarship, except during any project-related travel.
12. The University of Auckland Council is not obliged to make an award if it is determined there is no candidate that meets the criteria and/or no candidate of sufficient merit.
13. Payments under the terms of this Scholarship remain tax-free as long as they are used for the payment of costs associated with an awardee's Summer Research Scholarship Programme and/or to assist the awardee with living costs while undertaking their Summer Research Scholarship project (see Note I). Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the termination of the Scholarship.
14. The University of Auckland Council can amend or vary these regulations provided that there is no departure from the main purpose of the Scholarship.
15. Applications close with the Scholarships Office on 30 July in the year of the award.
16. Notes [I]-[X] below are deemed to be regulations.

Notes

- I. *The tax-free status of this Scholarship is under current legislation. The University of Auckland cannot guarantee this tax-free outcome.*
- II. *Research carried out for the Summer Research Scholarship course cannot be used in any subsequent programme in which the student enrolls.*
- III. *A student may enrol in a maximum of 15 points in Summer School during the tenure of this scholarship. SUMRESCH 301 is a not-for-credit course and therefore does not require the payment of any tuition fee.*
- IV. *International students are students who are neither citizens, permanent residents nor resident visa holders of New Zealand or Australia.*
- V. *In order to take up the Scholarship, international students must have a valid visa for the duration of the Scholarship.*
- VI. *The Scholarship GPA/GPE (SGPA/E) calculation will take into account all courses studied in the most recent two years of full-time study (or equivalent), including conjoint courses. Exchange study (within a New Zealand University degree) that has been undertaken at an overseas institution will be excluded, provided it does not exceed one*

semester. Where a semester of exchange is excluded from the calculation, the SGPA/E will be calculated on the most recent four full-time semesters (or equivalent) of study at a New Zealand institution.

- VII. Reports submitted at the end of the project and written in project working time must be the work of the student, should follow the Faculty report guidelines, and must be submitted by the deadline specified by the Faculty of Arts and Education. The language must be aimed at a general readership, unlikely to be familiar with the terminology used in specialist academic units.*
- VIII. The list of Summer Research topics can be found on the University of Auckland Summer Research Scholarships webpages at www.summer.ac.nz.*
- IX. Responsibility for any costs incurred in the course of the research project must be clarified with the supervisor and academic unit at the time of acceptance of the Scholarship.*
- X. Awardees will be required to give undertakings that they will comply with the regulations for the Scholarship and will notify the Scholarships Office of any change in their enrolment or funding status. The University of Auckland may, in the event that it can be established that an awardee is not complying with these regulations, terminate the Scholarship and require repayment of the funds received from the date of the breach.*