

# Cherie Mangu

Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Whātua ki Kaipara, Ngāpuhi (Ngāti Hine), Te Atihaunui-a-Pāpārangī

Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science (BA/BSc), majoring in Māori Studies/Physiology and Exercise Sciences, 2016



Being Māori at University is empowering because you are fulfilling the dreams of your ancestors and challenging society's norms for what it means to be Māori.

My whakapapa is my greatest motivation, along with my whānau, my community and knowing who I am as a Māori woman.

The University of Auckland has played a significant role in shaping me into a strong and focused woman with clear direction and purpose.

I've been very blessed as a recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Māori and Pacific Scholars, now known as the Māori Academic Excellence Scholarship, as well as the Ngārimu VC & 28th Māori Battalion Scholarship and Hauora Māori Scholarship. I also owe a lot of my success to the amazing Māori support groups such as Tuākana, Māori and Pacific Admission Scheme (MAPAS), and Ngā Tauria Māori.

Throughout my journey at University I have been involved in many inspiring programmes as a mentor and an ambassador including the Chancellor's Award for Top Scholars, BEAMS (Business, Engineering, Architecture, Medicine, Science), Tuākana and Whāia Te Pae Tawhiti. The more you are willing to give to the youth in these programmes, the more motivated and inspired you become along your own journey of academic success.