
CAREERS FOR **ARTS GRADUATES**



THE UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau
NEW ZEALAND

ARTS



Assistant Curator – Gus Fisher Gallery

"I help to look after the art collection of the University of Auckland, which consists of roughly 1,400 pieces, and help to curate a revolving schedule of exhibitions at the Gus Fisher Gallery."

"Working as part of a small team at the gallery is one of the best parts of my job and means I have gained experience across a number of areas including collection management, curating, exhibition scheduling and installation."

"I enjoy the varied nature of the position and the networks with which I have been connected to because of it. I like working in an environment that values research and

continued learning and the libraries at the University of Auckland are the best!"

"A recent highlight was volunteering as an exhibition attendant in the New Zealand pavilion at the Venice Biennale."

"During my postgraduate years I made a concerted effort to connect with others in my field of study. Writing a thesis can be solitary work so I attended as many seminar series, symposia and industry events as I possibly could. There was always someone I knew from class or a lecturer who had taught me around and through these events I gained volunteer work which turned into my current position."

"The skills I acquired through my Arts study to be able to research and look for answers to questions or theories have been invaluable. The ability to think critically and the framework for writing and effective communication has been very useful to me in my day-to-day work."

"The rigorous training that I received in the Faculty of Arts prepared me well for my working life."

Alice Tyler
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Art History and minor in Italian
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Art History
Master of Arts in Art History

HOW WILL MY ARTS DEGREE PREPARE ME FOR EMPLOYMENT?

Employment trends have changed dramatically over the years. Globalisation and advances in technology are creating jobs and opportunities that previously didn't exist. An Arts degree can prepare you for this increasingly changing job market by providing you with sought-after transferable skills and advanced knowledge that you can use in a wide range of careers – including those we cannot yet imagine.

Develop the skills that employers need

Through your Arts study, you can prepare yourself for the evolving landscape of work and develop the skills that employers value.

- **Written communication skills**
Employers want staff who can write correctly and professionally. Advanced written communication skills are a considerable asset for future jobs, from emailing clients to writing proposals or business cases. Studying Arts subjects is perfect for honing your writing skills, giving you practice in preparing materials such as essays that make logically structured, compelling arguments to reports that present a clear and concise analysis of facts.
- **Research and analysis**
You will develop the ability to research information and source material, to sift through and draw conclusions from large quantities of complex information.
- **Critical and analytical thinking**
Employers need people who can think for themselves, and Arts study teaches you to think. Rather than just absorb facts, you will be encouraged to question and challenge, to think critically about the information and knowledge you are exposed to, and to analyse it clearly and objectively.
- **Adaptability and flexibility**
Arts subjects challenge you to move you beyond the familiar and the comfortable, as you explore different points of view and other ways of experiencing the world. You will develop the ability to be open to different ways of thinking and to adapt to different situations. Adaptability and flexibility are essential in today's fast changing workplace and will enable you to anticipate trends, pursue new opportunities and thrive in different settings.
- **Creative thinking and problem solving**
In today's demanding workplace environment, all employers want staff who can show initiative, solve their own problems

and come up with creative solutions. Arts subjects encourage you to think for yourself and use your creativity.

- **Global and cultural awareness**
Global citizenship and cultural awareness are increasingly important for career opportunities and success. Arts subjects expose you to different cultural viewpoints, languages and experiences, and foster an international view of the world that also respects local cultures.

Open doors with our world class reputation

The University of Auckland's reputation as New Zealand's leading and internationally-ranked university means that you can graduate knowing that your degree is held in high regard by future employers.* The Faculty of Arts is New Zealand's top arts faculty with six subjects ranked among the top 50 in the world (Archaeology is ranked 20th, Development Studies 23rd, English Language and Literatures 31th, Anthropology 44th, Linguistics 49th and Social Policy and Administration 49th), according to the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2016.

*2015 Global Employability University Rankings, Times Higher Education.

Gain practical work experience while studying

In preparation for employment and to help you establish professional networks, we offer an internship course that you may be able to take in your final year of a Bachelor of Arts. Not only can you gain credits from this course, but you can also develop your skills and gain work experience for future employment. For more information visit www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/internship

Graduate employment data

The latest research released by Universities New Zealand – Te Pokai has found that:**

- Arts graduates earn around \$1m to \$1.3m more over their working lives than non-graduates.
- Arts graduates earn above the national median for salary and wage earners.
- 90% of Arts graduates are in degree-relevant roles such as teachers, managers and policy and planning roles.

**Earnings data is taken from the 2013 Census. Employment rate data comes from the Ministry of Education's 2014 "What young graduates earn when they leave study".

FOLLOW YOUR PASSION FOR A CAREER YOU'LL LOVE

This table highlights the career outcomes of some of our recent graduates and illustrates how an Arts degree can open up career possibilities in a wide range of fields. Data for this table was sourced from LinkedIn 2016 and Faculty of Arts graduate profile information.

The information in this table and on the following pages are just some examples of the fields you could work in and the jobs your Arts degree could prepare you for. To read more graduate stories visit www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/graduates

"I look to hire graduates with an arts degree because they've been taught how to think outside the box to solve problems and they have the necessary critical thinking skills to adapt to 21st century demands."

Aaron Dus – Vice President | Associate Partner – Strategic Planning, Rosetta Advertising, Los Angeles

"An Arts education provides a great foundation for a career in a company like Fonterra. Today's labour market is a lot more dynamic, fluid and global. Employers are looking for people who can thrive and compete in that environment – and that means a premium on skills like critical thinking, collaboration, adaptability, resilience and communication skills."

"The ability to think ahead, to work with diverse people, to challenge boundaries and to come up with solutions to complex problems – these are things that employers increasingly value. As you move to senior roles, organisations look for a broader set of leadership skills and that is where an Arts background really comes to the fore."

Philip Turner – (Acting) Director Global Stakeholder Affairs – Fonterra

YOUTUBE

View our YouTube channel to find out why employers value an Arts degree.

www.youtube.com/ArtsAucklandUni



Our graduates work in fields as diverse as:	In positions including:
Advertising, marketing and communications	Advertising Traffic Executive
	Content and Advertising Manager
	Performance Executive
	Digital Content Marketer
	Digital Specialist
	Digital Adviser
	Digital Marketing Technologist
	Marketing Specialist
	Marketing Associate
	Online Marketing Coordinator
	Sales and Marketing Executive
	Communications Specialist
Archaeology	Graduate Archaeologist
	Specialist Archaeologist
	Senior Archaeologist
	Heritage Information Advisor
	Heritage Consultant and Anthropologist
	Archaeologist and Heritage Manager
	Technical Advisor Historic and Cultural Heritage
Business development and management	Senior Associate Integrated Strategy and Planning
	Fundraising Manager
	Business Development Manager
	Sales Operations Executive
	Associate Manager Global Consumer Insight
	Research Manager
	Cloud Solutions Manager
	Customer Interaction Coordinator
	Project Manager/Senior Associate
International development and relations	International Relations Coordinator – Japan
	International Consultant – Climate Change Division, United Nations
	Programme, Policy and Partnerships Manager
	Educational Consultant – United Arab Emirates

Our graduates work in fields as diverse as:	In positions including:
Media production	Assistant Editor
	Production Manager
	Promotions Scheduler
	Promotions Producer
	Producer
	Research Writer
	Game Designer
	Journalist – Radio Production
	Film Director/Producer
Language teaching	English Language Teacher
	English Language Instructor
	English as a Second Language Teacher
Local and national government	Public Affairs and Political Consultant
	Strategic Policy Analyst
	Graduate Policy Analyst
	Policy Advisor
	Public Policy Officer
	Democracy Services Graduate
	Strategy and Stakeholder Manager – Infrastructure and Environmental Services
	Local Board Adviser
	Historian – Treaty Settlements
	Diplomat – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
	Division Chief for Policy Formulation
	Development Manager – Auckland Metro Crime and Operations
	Ethnic Affairs Adviser
Publications and content writing	Senior Content and Publications Editor
	Independent Journalist
	Publicist
	Content Writer and Coordinator
	Writing Director
Translation and interpreting	Translator
	Medical Interpreter – Auckland District Health Board
	Manager Translation Service – Department of Internal Affairs
	Chinese Translator





Account Executive – Ogilvy & Mather New Zealand

"My position involves making sure ongoing projects run through the different departments of the agency and that everyone is completing the jobs required from the department at the appropriate deadlines. My job also involves presenting concepts and finished work to the client and managing their feedback throughout the appropriate channels within the agency."

"The best thing about my job is that every day is different. Because there is constantly a new campaign, the approach to each event differs quite frequently. How the event or campaign is advertised through different media channels, the creative execution, and the end product are constantly changing."

"My study gave me a point of difference compared to other applicants looking for internships and advertising positions. The people who interviewed me were always fascinated by my study in Criminology and Psychology, and it made me stand out amongst piles of CVs from people with commerce or marketing degrees."

"My Arts study provided me with a greater understanding of how people think and act in both group situations and on an individual level. This skill has been helpful in my career as it not only helps me in taking a creative approach to advertising, but also helps me in forming and maintaining strong and positive relationships both within the agency and with the clients."

"The great thing about an Arts degree is that the skills you will learn will be applicable in many different industries. Focus on subjects that genuinely interest you. You will not necessarily have to pursue that industry as a career path, but at least you will be learning things that challenge and interest you, and you will later notice how the skills and knowledge gained can be applied to multiple disciplines you admire for future endeavours."

James Rolhoff
Bachelor of Arts
Double major in Criminology and Psychology

Arts graduates working in ADVERTISING AND MARKETING



Account Planner – DDB Advertising

"I'm an Account Planner which basically involves finding the right communications strategy to create an effective ad campaign, based on insights around the brand, target audience and business problem.

"DDB has a cool "no jerks" policy, which means you're usually working with people both nicer and smarter than yourself, and the diversity of the work in planning is great. Being able to work on a number of different clients gives you the chance to learn about a range of businesses and how they operate. It's a good mix of creativity and commerce.

"It's hard to pin down one highlight as I've been lucky enough to help out on some great campaigns here, but having a tiny part in the 'Bring Down The King' campaign for SKY TV and *Game of Thrones* stands out as a special one.

"I came into advertising in a fairly roundabout way, having done a double major in History and Art History. But I think those fields actually gave me a nice point of difference and wider perspective against people who might have been more specialised towards pure marketing. The good thing about being a Planner is that anything and everything (history, film, fiction) can be useful in coming up with a strategy.

"Just because you start out doing one thing doesn't mean that it will end up being your career. The nice thing about an arts degree is the range of different places it can lead you. Often it will be something you never saw yourself in but actually turns out to be a great fit. I think there's something to be said for studying something you're naturally interested in."

Jack Murphy
Bachelor of Arts
Double major in Art History and History



Digital Content Marketer – Harmoney

"I'm the Digital Content Marketer at Harmoney, which is New Zealand's first licensed peer-to-peer lending marketplace.

"Being involved in a company during its start-up phase means you end up being a 'jack of all trades', but largely my focuses are email marketing and content management. Day-to-day I write, design and build emails, write new content and manage the website.

"My Arts study paved the way to my job in a few surprising ways. Most crucially, I made the connections that got me the job (join clubs – seriously!), but I also got to spend three and a bit years developing my interests, becoming a better writer, learning how people think and developing a really solid, self-motivated work ethic.

"Some of the most important skills that I gained through studying in the Faculty of Arts are open-mindedness, a willingness to learn and explore and a diligent work ethic. Arts study gives you a fantastic opportunity to blend analytical thinking with creative exploration and to make this kind of thinking an integral part of who you are and how you work.

"All the advice I received was that most people change their career a few times throughout their lives, and the most important thing is that you study something that you enjoy.

"So that's what I did."

Grace Brebner
Bachelor of Arts
Double major in English and Psychology



Retail Marketing Executive – Air New Zealand

"As Retail Marketing Executives, our team manages the retail campaigns including television, radio and outdoor advertising as well as the digital components such as online banners, emails and webpages. It's pretty awesome to have responsibility for so many different facets of the campaign.

"My biggest highlight so far was going into the studio with our talent to record some voice overs for a television campaign. I think there's going to be a lot of highlights to come.

"Media, Film and Television and Psychology prepared me well for marketing roles. They have helped me to understand how people think and then applying it to marketing situations.

"Doing a BA really helped me to mature in my ideas and stand up for my point of view. Being able to formulate clear reasons with evidence is a huge part of marketing, so all those essays really paid off.

"The biggest reason I did a BA was the flexibility – I was able to study a wide range of subjects rather than getting pigeon-holed into something right from the beginning. It gave me the opportunity to take a few other courses and decide if what I was doing at the beginning was right for me and if I should keep doing it. I actually did Drama for my first year instead of Media, Film and Television. I took one Media, Film and Television course and was hooked!

"I know that if I hadn't done a BA, I would not be where I have ended up today."

Laura Butler
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Film, Television and Media Studies*
and minor in Psychology

*This subject is now called Media, Film and Television.



Archaeologist – Opus International Consultants Limited

"When I was five years old I told my parents that I wanted to be an archaeologist and travel the world. My only worry was that I would miss my mum. Overcoming homesickness in leaps and bounds, today I work as an archaeologist in New Zealand for Opus International Consultants Limited. Over the last few months I have worked in the field excavating pre-European contact Māori horticultural field systems in the Waikato and in the lab analysing moa remains and stone artefacts from Ōtautahi (Christchurch). I have also carried out research with members of Anthropology at the University of Auckland using modern spatial technologies such as LiDAR and terrestrial laser scanning in New Zealand and Hawai'i. Every day is different, working as an archaeologist, with a good mix of research, playing in the mud, early morning coffee and trying to explain how that artefact came to be there.

"For me, the most enjoyable part of my job is working with or talking to the descendants of

the people who made the stuff that is in the ground today. The look on people's faces when they touch physical history that they tie their identity to is priceless. This may be in talking to locals of a site whose ancestors were European settlers in the 1800s or were Māori who have lived in Aotearoa for the last 800 years or so. There is something about seeing and touching objects that have been under the ground for hundreds of years that I think most people can appreciate as being pretty special. Connecting people with their history keeps me grinning.

"To be an archaeologist, it is a no brainer that you need to study courses in archaeology (within Anthropology). I have been able to study a wide variety of courses – especially in my undergraduate degree – that have taught me where my strengths and weaknesses lie. I have studied languages, cultural studies, ancient history, history, geography, geology and anthropology all within one degree. Having a wide variety of courses at my fingertips

definitely kept me interested, but it also solidified my path to become an archaeologist. My favourite experience as a student was during my honours and masters years, where classes were a bit cosier, discussions were a bit more heated and my research was more independent.

"There are so many opportunities and resources made available to you as an Arts student. Take advantage of them and fulfil your dreams like I did!"

Zac McIvor
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Anthropology and minor in Ancient History
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Anthropology
Master of Arts in Anthropology, specialising in Archaeology

Arts graduates working in ARCHAEOLOGY



Specialist Archaeologist – Heritage Unit, Auckland Council

"I am extremely lucky to work where I do! Every day I am excited and challenged, getting to research and visit archaeological sites around Auckland, meeting diverse people from many different departments and expanding my own knowledge of Auckland's history.

"As Specialist Archaeologist I respond to requests across the Auckland Region where there are archaeological and heritage concerns. I provide advice to many arms of Council and give specialist input into the Resource Consent process.

"Doing my Master of Arts in Anthropology at the University, specialising in archaeology, was the ideal path into this position.

"All of the skills from my study have helped me in this position! Academic writing, research, critical thinking and evaluation have been the most significant, as well as the more specific skills that Anthropology courses teach. Other, more general skills like time-management, working within a team and communicating ideas are just as important. There is always a way in which my studies can help me with my day-to-day work, and it changes every day."

Laura Dawson
Master of Arts in Anthropology, specialising in Archaeology



Archaeologist – Clough and Associates

"I am archaeologist with Clough and Associates, one of New Zealand's largest heritage consultancies. We provide a range of services from assessments of effects on archaeology to recording historic heritage to mitigating archaeological sites through investigation.

"My job takes me to outstanding parts of New Zealand. I might find myself whisked away to the Okahukura Peninsula on the Kaipara Harbour, down to the sand dunes of Papamoa or into the forests of Northland, potentially all in one week. There is nothing quite like driving through the Karangahake Gorge as the sun is rising, heading down to the white sand beaches of the East Coast and being paid to do it.

"Archaeology is as much a job about people in the present as in the past. Being part of Anthropology introduced me to driven, passionate and proficient individuals who propelled me to succeed in whatever path I decided upon.

"Being able to absorb, digest and disseminate information from a variety of sources that you come across studying in Arts allows you to apply that skill in a job that works with a large range of professions. Working with people such as engineers, geotechnical specialists, historians, planners and architects and being able to understand their aspects of the project allows for more suited archaeological services to be provided."

Bernie Larsen
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Anthropology
Master of Arts in Anthropology, specialising in Archaeology



Archaeologist – Clough and Associates

"I am constantly looking into the past and getting paid for it.

"My main area is monitoring and survey, where I investigate old documents, in the field or on construction sites for the possibility of material remains left by people in the past. I get to do this because disturbing or modifying an archaeological site is a criminal offence.

"In this way, I am very much grounded in the present, as consultation work is 30 percent archaeology and 70 percent working with people across a diverse group of professions and agencies who are all interested in how to deal with the remains of the past.

"I love cartography – especially old maps and plans. Part of my job is using these to understand how buildings and streets were laid out in the past, so I am constantly exposed to them.

"The ability to question and understand a large quantity of information in a short period of time is the most important skill I have gained from my Arts study. Being able to scrutinise information, evaluate it and reconvert it into useful knowledge to whoever is asking me my opinion on that information is a skill I use almost every day with my clients.

"Arts study also teaches you to break down whatever you looking at and consider it from every angle. This is very useful outside of university, as arts graduates always look to innovate and find a better way of doing things."

Ben Jones
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Anthropology and minor in Criminology
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Anthropology
Master of Arts in Anthropology

A woman with long brown hair and bangs, smiling, is positioned in the foreground. Behind her is a complex industrial setting with various pipes, valves, and machinery. A large green valve handle is visible to her right. In the upper left corner, there is a large white arrow pointing right, containing the text 'G RESULTS'.

G RESULTS

Project Lead – Shell New Zealand

"I manage Engineering Change Projects on Shell's gas production plants.

"The main thing that I like about my job is that it's different every day. Every project has its own unique challenges and risks that it's my job to work through, and working with a large variety of stakeholders means there's always something new to learn.

"Shell hires their graduates based on behaviours and personality. When I applied for an engineering graduate position, having an Arts

conjoint degree showed that I was well-rounded and had more than just technical ability. I know that this helped me to stand out in the screening rounds of the recruitment process.

"As well as this, I think the skills I learned during my degree helped me to get through the interviews, which required us to analyse options, think critically and collaborate with others.

"I gained many skills through my Arts study that are directly relevant to my job, such as having the ability to understand different perspectives

and being able to construct a logical argument which takes these different perspectives into account, collaborating and negotiating with people who hold a different perspective to me, the ability to step back from a technical issue and understand the bigger picture and the ability to contribute to my organisation's understanding and awareness of social issues."

Katherine Halliburton
Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Engineering
(Honours) conjoint, majoring in Sociology

Arts graduates working in BUSINESS



People and Organisation Coordinator – Mars New Zealand

"I currently work as People and Organisation Coordinator at Mars New Zealand, which was rated Best Workplace by IBM Kenexa in 2015.

"It is a varied role involving the coordination of annual training, annual conferences and other events, health, safety and wellbeing, employee on-boarding and off-boarding, objectives and development plans, engagement projects, rewards and benefits, and the list goes on!

"I am very lucky to be a part of a rare workplace culture doing what I love and really progressing in the human resources space.

"The great thing about the Faculty of Arts is that it is flexible and allows for and encourages personal growth and aspirations. I spoke with a faculty member who advised me that I could undertake a Graduate Diploma in Arts in Employment Relations and Organisation Studies. This tied in with my previous degree and added business and management substance and challenge.

"I think the greatest asset I have gained through my study has been my understanding of people, of different ideologies and approaches, management and business. Along with this, I have strengthened my time management, communication and analytical skills, which has thoroughly helped me in all of my roles.

"Each year, I became more and more confident in the things I enjoyed, and the things I didn't enjoy as much. This guided me to narrow my focus and concentrate on career options supported by these aspects."

Melanie Fisher
Bachelor of Arts
Double major in Sociology and Education
Graduate Diploma in Arts in Employment Relations and Organisation Studies



Research Manager – NeedScope International

"I'm responsible for managing and conducting qualitative research projects that develop brand strategy solutions for clients across a range of sectors. NeedScope is a market research tool for understanding and managing emotion and motivations in brand choices.

"We do a lot of international work so I've done some really interesting projects in different cultures. A highlight for me was doing a beer study in Nigeria. It was really fascinating exploring their beer drinking culture and the impact that it had on brand positioning and behaviour.

"My major was Political Studies*. One of the reasons why I enjoyed it so much is because I'm interested in understanding human behaviour and what drives the choices we make. Political Studies is an extension to this. Why are we drawn to certain political leaders? Why do we vote the way we do? How does a country's political culture influence political decisions? This interest in human behaviour fits well with the work I do now which seeks to understand how underlying emotions influence consumer behaviour and brand choice.

"The biggest benefit of an arts degree is the transferable skills you get. Understanding how to research effectively, how to critically evaluate strategies and ideas and knowing effective communication techniques are all skills that can be applied across a wide range of jobs and different industries."

Sophia Blair
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Political Studies*, minor in History
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Political Studies
Master of Arts in Political Studies

**This subject is now called Politics and International Relations.*



Associate Manager – Hasbro

"I'm currently an Associate Manager in Hasbro's Global Consumer Insight division, working in the Strategic Foresight team. Hasbro is one of the largest toy manufacturers in the world, owners of brands like *Monopoly*, *Transformers*, *My Little Pony*, *G.I. Joe*, *Play-Doh*, *Nerf*, *Littlest Pet Shop*, and the main licensor for films such as *Star Wars*, *The Avengers*, *Spider-Man* and *Jurassic World*.

"The best part of my current role is the impact my work has on aiding and influencing upper-management's decisions. Critical thinking and logic skills, picked up through study in Philosophy have been a big help, as is my skim-reading ability picked up from having to read various novels, plays and associated philosophical readings in my English and Philosophy classes. The ability to quickly find pertinent data or information from a wall of text, the ability to deduct, and to formulate an appropriate hypothesis from the data are skills that were fostered in my time at the Faculty of Arts.

"I've also found that the ability to construct creative data displays and the practice of writing essays, short stories and reviews has been crucial in singling me out from the competition. You wouldn't believe the amount of researchers and insight generators that like to data dump, or provide 100+ page reports or presentations instead of short, streamlined, visually interesting documents."

Michael Liddle
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Film, Television and Media Studies*
and minor in Philosophy

**This subject is now called Media, Film and Television.*



Knowledge Management and Communications – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

"Since 2009 I have worked with the United Nations Development Programme highlighting climate change adaptation and biodiversity projects.

"My tasks with UNDP have included working on results and knowledge management in the Environment and Energy Group, producing knowledge management and communications products with Regional Technical Advisors

on development projects globally and bridging the creative media and international development fields by creating photo essays, producing videos, developing and maintaining websites, developing project profiles, and writing press releases, fact sheets and success stories.

"The concepts that I was exposed to as part of my Master of Professional Studies have served

me well and the strong research, writing and analytical skills that I gained during my studies have been very useful in my job."

Andrea Egan
Master of Professional Studies in
International Relations and Human Rights

Arts graduates working in INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Development Officer – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

“My Master of Arts in Development Studies opened the door to the job I have now.

“I have the privilege of working with an incredible cohort of New Zealand development workers who are knowledgeable and passionate about the Pacific and the wider development context.

“My study gave me the development frameworks and analytic skills which I use every day in my job. This role is greatly varied and there are a range of opportunities to be posted overseas into development positions in the future.

“I enjoy the diversity of my job. I love being able to adapt my skills across a range of subjects such as health, education, law and justice, labour mobility and fisheries.

“One specific highlight has been travelling with the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Pacific. I had the privilege of seeing our development projects in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, talking to NGOs and discussing the future directions of these countries with private sector leaders.

“Being exposed to a high calibre of lecturers who have strong research backgrounds and learning how to discuss and argue complex development issues with specialists and experts through my studies has prepared me well for an international career in Development Studies.”

Esther Jens
Master of Arts in Development Studies



Business Development Coordinator – Oxfam Australia

“My role focuses on the design and development of international development initiatives within the Pacific geographical region.

“There are many enjoyable parts of my current role. Travel is always a highlight: I have been lucky throughout my career to travel globally from Ethiopia to the highlands of Papua New Guinea working on a range of projects from sexual and reproductive health to economic development.

“Building relationships with people from diverse cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds and getting to view the world from their perspective is something that I have particularly enjoyed and benefited from.

“I studied Anthropology and History, both of which increased my interest in society and the way we operate within a global and local context. Anthropology provided me with the opportunity to critically examine society, ethnicity and culture, whilst History provided me with many examples of human achievements and injustices.

“My study in these areas ultimately influenced my career aspirations and pushed me towards an area that would have a positive social impact.

“Arts degrees provide a unique set of skills that lead to tangible job opportunities. They allow you to develop flexible, critical thinking which is highly desirable to employers in all industries.”

Ben McFadden
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Anthropology and minor in History



Executive Director – Muntinlupa Development Foundation

“I am the Executive Director of Muntinlupa Development Foundation (MDF). MDF is a non-profit organisation that works with the communities of Muntinlupa in the southern part of Metro Manila, Philippines.

“A large portion of the people in these communities live in poverty. Most of MDF’s programs are in the areas of housing, poverty alleviation, health and livelihood.

“As Executive Director, I oversee the Foundation’s programs and also work on tapping various sources of funding such as grants and donations. I also work on the Foundation’s advocacy programs, with the objective of pushing for policies that will help in alleviating the plight of the poor – especially the most vulnerable groups such as women and children.

“My postgraduate education helped in boosting my career. Many institutions in my country (Philippines) prefer to have someone with postgraduate qualifications in their senior management positions.

“The research skills that I gained during my study are a big help in my day-to-day work. Whether I am evaluating if a project is worthwhile to pursue, or analysing a particular issue, conducting the necessary research is a must.

“The Master of Public Policy programme offers flexibility in career choice. The knowledge I gained gave me an advantage whether I decided to work in government or in the private sector.”

Gay Marie Franciso travelled from the Philippines to complete a Master of Public Policy

A portrait of Hector Kaiwai, a middle-aged man with short dark hair, smiling. He is wearing a light blue button-down shirt with a fine grid pattern. The background is a blurred stone wall with a green decorative element on the right.

Research, Evaluation and Policy Lead – Hāpai Te Hauoroa

"I currently work both as an independent contractor and as the Research, Evaluation and Policy Lead for Hāpai Te Hauoroa, a Māori public health provider based in West Auckland. I'm a social scientist, which basically means I either conduct social and health research and/or collect research evidence to inform the design and development of an intervention, programme, strategy or policy, with a particular focus on improving social and health outcomes for Māori. The needs of Māori communities are often diverse and complex.

"You certainly feel a sense of joy and satisfaction knowing that the work you do can make a real difference in people's lives, especially working in areas like tobacco control and seeing the progress that has been made in terms of reducing smoking and tobacco consumption rates. The other highlight of my job is getting to meet and work with so many amazing, intelligent and incredibly passionate

people. At Hāpai Te Hauoroa for example, our team have had the privilege of meeting and working with a number of amazing Māori leaders including Dr Lance O'Sullivan, Dame June Mariu, Dr Pita Sharples and Dame Tariana Turia.

"The research skills I learnt during my years of study have ended up being my bread and butter to this day! Māori Studies is multidisciplinary and gives you a solid grounding in areas like history, anthropology, ethnomusicology, media studies, politics, sociology, linguistics and health. The advantage in having this multidisciplinary focus is that it provides a number of frameworks and paradigms you can draw on to enhance your critical thinking around an issue. This has proven incredibly valuable in my current work in public health research, evaluation and policy, where you are often asked to 'unravel' complex social and health issues that operate at a number of

levels and are intertwined with a number of social, cultural, political and socio-economic influences.

"I believe that having these broad range of skills and the versatility it affords you is vital in today's job market.

"My parents, especially my mother, fostered a deep passion in me for my people and culture, right from an early age. Growing up in South Auckland makes you keenly aware that large disparities exist, particularly for Māori. I saw Māori Studies as a way to try and understand my life, and the lives and experiences of the communities I grew up in and that by understanding the issue better, I could make a difference."

Hector Kaiwai
Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music
conjoint majoring in Māori Studies
Master of Arts in Māori Studies

Arts graduates working in LOCAL/NATIONAL GOVERNMENT



Vote Analyst – Economic Performance and Strategy Team – New Zealand Treasury

“My role is to provide advice to the Minister of Finance on the performance of the Government’s investments in Research and Development (\$1.4b in 2015). I also lead Treasury’s policy advice on broader science and innovation issues, help coordinate the OECD Country Studies of New Zealand and provide oversight of the Productivity Commission.

“I did a Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations and wrote my thesis on the Emissions Trading Scheme. Along the way I took the time to follow my passions and joined clubs, did volunteer work in Peru over the summer holidays, did an internship for Oxfam and a Member of Parliament and went to South Africa to the United Nations Climate Change Negotiations.

“Studying in the Faculty of Arts helped me to find and follow these passions, which led to my first job out of university at the Ministry for the Environment.

“The most useful skills I gained from studying in Arts have been in learning to critically analyse information and express my findings to others in a way which is concise and easy to understand.

“Through my Arts study I learned to make every word count and to deliver messages with clarity and ease. This is what you need to do when you’re briefing ministers on complex issues; they’re busy people who have to cover a wide range of information.”

Jonathan Williams
Master of Arts in Politics and International Relations



Policy Advisor – Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

“I am currently working as a Policy Advisor at the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment. My team advises the government on petroleum and minerals policy.

“One of the things I really like about my job is the challenging discussions and hard questions we have to deliberate on in order to provide the government with sound advice.

“Some of the highlights for me so far have been being able to participate in conversations with iwi around petroleum and minerals and having a significant role in developing policy alternatives for the government to inform its decisions around New Zealand’s petroleum and mineral resources.

“There are so many different jobs you can go into with a degree in Politics and International Relations.

“The Master of Public Policy is a very career-focused qualification, and I decided to study this because I knew it could help me refine my area of study. I realised I wanted to become a Policy Advisor during my honours study; I liked the idea of taking part in the process of influencing government decisions.

“To know how to think outside the box and have the ability to argue for or against a certain situation are essential skills for a job in public policy.”

Martha Carrillo
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Political Studies* and minor in History
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Politics and International Relations
Master of Public Policy

**This subject is now called Politics and International Relations.*



Strategy and Stakeholder Manager, Infrastructure and Environmental Services directorate – Auckland Council

“I work for the Auckland Council as the Strategy and Stakeholder Manager for the Infrastructure and Environmental Services directorate. This is a 500-strong team responsible for managing Auckland’s regional stormwater and waste services, maintaining and enhancing the quality of the region’s natural, cultural and built environments as well as overseeing complex and major infrastructure development projects, enabling the required growth to take place in Auckland.

“My team manages the directorate’s relationships with the Council’s political processes and elected members. It involves giving quality advice, project management, summarising and writing reports, making a number of well-informed decisions every day and working closely with our mana whenua partners. Local government depends on our elected representatives being well-informed about the issues that affect our communities – our team helps to make that happen!

“If you’re contemplating a degree in Arts, my advice would be to get involved, go to seminars, put your work out there for discussion and review, teach if you can and enjoy yourself. Most of all, value the study you do for its own inherent qualities.”

Mara Bebich
Bachelor of Arts
Major in History and minor in French
Master of Arts in History



Publicist – South Pacific Pictures

"I currently work as a Publicist at South Pacific Pictures, where I help implement strategies to maximise public awareness of the company's TV and film productions. I coordinate and assist with cast photo shoots, production stills and organise the publicity materials that get delivered to broadcasters and distributors. I also work closely with media outlets co-ordinating cast TV appearances, radio interviews, magazine features and print and online newspaper articles."

"Publicising awesome TV shows like Westside, Step Dave, The Brokenwood Mysteries and 800 Words is a real highlight of the job. I also enjoy planning publicity strategies – it's fun to come up with ideas and see them become stories in the media."

"Studying a Bachelor of Arts gave me the freedom to explore a whole lot of topics and the time to decide what I wanted to be. I didn't originally plan to study Drama but it developed

into a passion that I turned into a career as a Freelance Theatre Publicist. The first shows I publicised were for the Stage Two University Drama Club and the first network I built was made up of my peers."

Kristina Hard
Bachelor of Arts
Major in English and minor in Drama

Arts graduates working in MEDIA, FILM AND TELEVISION



Publicity and Interactive Executive – Paramount Pictures

"I am currently the Publicity and Interactive Executive for Paramount Pictures. It's a dynamic post that varies greatly in its demands from one week to the next. The bottom line is: if you've been made aware of any of our films – whether it's through a trailer on YouTube, an interview on television or a celebrity on the front cover of a magazine – then I've done my job.

"My favourite part of my job is handling the company's social media presence. I have a natural urge to be on the pulse of what's trending and topical in the world, and with this job I'm literally paid to be on Facebook. I know. It's awesome.

"A large and enjoyable component is the handling of relations between the company and our media partners, which allows me to meet and befriend many prominent faces in the media industry. And in truth, rubbing shoulders while on tour with Hollywood's A-list never gets old.

"The diversity of thought and out-of-the-box problem-solving necessary in an arts degree helped assist me with a multitude of challenges that I've experienced throughout my working life. My English major honed my linguistic prowess and Psychology gave me some degree of insight into human behaviour. Additionally, the Statistics courses that were a mandatory element of Psychology gave me the skills to cry foul when I come across dodgy numbers."

Joshua Ling
Bachelor of Arts
Double major in English and Psychology



Commercial Director – Blacksand, TVNZ

"I love working in the field that I have passion for. It never feels like I actually have to 'work' as I'm constantly doing what I love. I get to spend a lot of my time coming up with cool ideas for TV commercials at TVNZ, or coming up with funny and silly skits for the YouTube channel. With both of these, it means that I get to spend a lot of time on set doing what I love.

"An Arts degree at the University of Auckland appealed to me because the programme had a great mix of theoretical and practical courses. Film was what I wanted to get into, so it was the best decision for me.

"My advice to students wanting to get into the film industry is to put yourself out there and make films as much as you can while you're studying. All the success I have had has been because I am constantly making films for work, but also making things off my own back just for the fun of it and to advance my career.

"So many people go into studying without knowing what they want to do, and they end up studying something they aren't interested in. There is such an amazing breadth of courses in an Arts degree that there is almost something for everyone – and if you know where you want to go with your future then you'll be able to perfectly pin point what is going to spark your interest and help your career the most."

Adam King
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Film, Television and Media Studies*
minor in Political Studies**
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Screen
Production
Master of Arts in Screen Production

**This subject is now called Media, Film and Television.
**This subject is now called Politics and International
Relations.*



Creative Producer – MediaWorks

"I'm a Creative Producer for MediaWorks, which involves dealing with sponsorships and client based content. The most enjoyable part of my job is that there is always something different happening! Sometimes you find yourself in the office, and sometimes you find yourself doing the craziest things at shoots! The biggest highlight would be seeing something you made play on TV and online.

"I have found that communicating with likeminded people has been useful, as you will find that in this industry it is key to make contacts. I have also found that critical thinking and creative thinking has been a very useful tool. Studying Arts helped foster those ideas that have been baking inside my head and the practical courses I did have been extremely useful for the job I have now.

"I would encourage undergraduate students to put the effort into what they enjoy the most, because studying can be quite overbearing at times. But if there is one thing that allows you to flourish in all ways possible, then it is worth putting your energy into it. Go with your heart, because at the end of the day happiness and fulfilment need to come first."

Isaiah Tour
Bachelor of Arts
Double major in English and Film, Television
and Media Studies*

**This subject is now called Media, Film and Television.*

Arts graduates working in TRANSLATION AND LANGUAGE TEACHING



Medical Interpreter – Auckland District Health Board

“My role as a medical interpreter involves assisting patients and their family to communicate with healthcare providers, such as physicians, psychologists, and nurses. I also translate medical documents and information sheets that are provided to Chinese patients.

“My Arts study has equipped me with practical and up-to-date translation tools, as well as the theoretical frameworks to guide my interpreting and translation work.

“While completing my masters study I became a full time medical interpreter and translator at Auckland District Health Board. Study at the masters level further broadened my knowledge of translation and interpretation.

“I found postgraduate study a great way to further knowledge on a special area of interest. My Master of Arts in Translation Studies not only provided the specific tools and skills that enabled me to start my career, but also widely transferable skills such as research and critical thinking.”

Lori Liang

**Postgraduate Diploma in Translation Studies
Master of Arts in Translation Studies**



Manager – Department of Internal Affairs' Translation Service

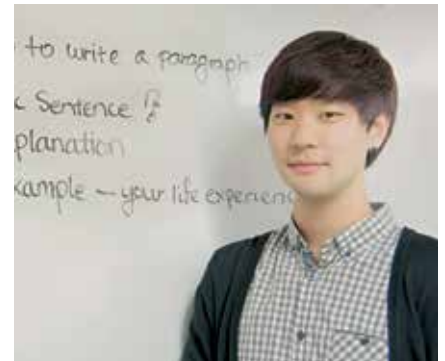
“I am currently Manager of the Department of Internal Affairs' Translation Service. This involves overseeing the finances and operations of the unit, maintaining stakeholder relationships and strategic planning for the unit. The Translation Service is the only government translation office and its current role is to make sure that government has access to reliable and quality linguistic expertise, which it needs in order to reach out to New Zealand's ethnic communities in their native tongue as well as to understand written information in foreign languages.

“Working within government, the work we do often has a direct and meaningful impact on people's lives. This can be as simple as helping enabling people to go ahead with significant life events such as an overseas wedding, citizenship ceremony or repatriate a deceased loved-one back to their home country on time or to write materials to reach out to a marginalised community or assist with an investigation and court evidence.

“I found that an Arts degree focuses on many crucial skills for success that are not well understood or easily acquired. These include skills ranging from pursuing a genuine interest and passion, to an appreciation of people and social dynamics, creativity, critical thinking, general emotional intelligence, writing ability and interpersonal communication skills. These skills make the crucial difference.”

Quintin Ridgeway

Master of Professional Studies in Translation



English as a Second Language teacher

“Teaching English to teenagers has always been rewarding for me. It's great to see them improving their English as well as their social skills while they study at our school.

“I've also learnt that teaching a language doesn't mean only helping international students to develop their linguistic knowledge, but also their understanding of other cultures. Seeing my students become more tolerant of others is always the best part of my job.

“English as a Second Language teaching jobs usually require any bachelors degree or a Cambridge CELTA qualification. Both my Bachelor of Arts and Postgraduate Diploma in Language Teaching have provided me an opportunity to explore a variety of different areas in this field such as material design, course and syllabus design, task-based language teaching, English grammar and communicative language teaching. Without my degrees from the University of Auckland, I wouldn't have learnt any of this.

“All jobs require human interaction and learning how to work together. If we don't know about each other, how could we possibly understand the differences among us? Studying arts and humanities will enable you to learn about different people and different stories.”

Johnny Kim

Bachelor of Arts

**Double major in Linguistics and English
Language Teaching***

Postgraduate Diploma in Language Teaching

*This subject is now called Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

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subjects in Criminology and Philosophy with a Bachelor of Laws or a BA in Politics and International Relations with a Bachelor of Commerce. The valuable transferable skills you develop through BA study can enhance your employability and your ability to succeed in your career.

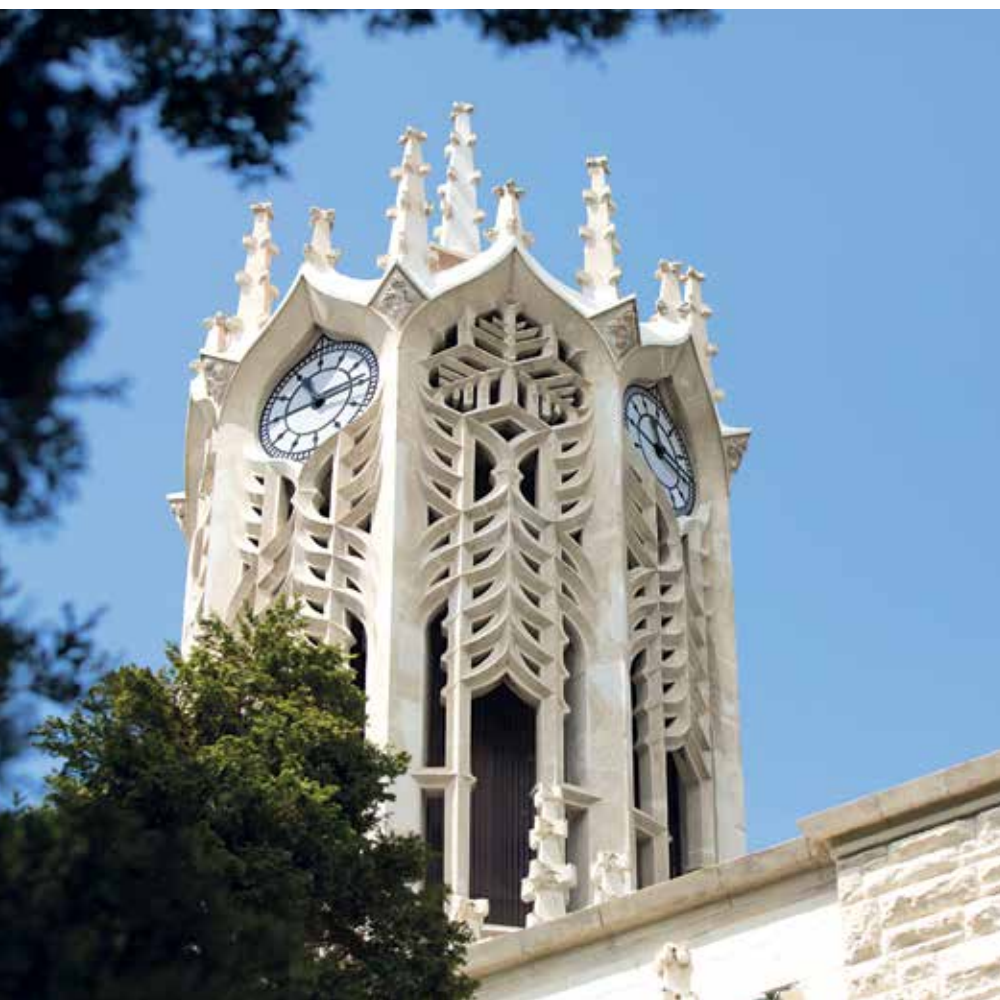
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