



Tuitui

Māori and Pacific student stories



*Kia ora, Tālofa lava,
 Ni sa bula vinaka,
 Kia orana, Fakaalofa
 lahi atu, Mālō e lelei,
 Fakatālofa lahi atu,
 Malo ni, Mauri, and
 warm Māori and Pacific
 greetings to you all.*

As Dean of this outstanding faculty I would like to welcome you. Located in the heart of Auckland, Tamaki Mākaaurau, we are enriched by the presence of Ngāti Whātua Orākei, the people of this place on whose land we stand.

We are a faculty that stands tall among our international peers and are consistently ranked among the world’s top arts faculties by the QS World University Rankings. We take great pride in our comprehensive study offerings, the excellence of our research, and the inclusive environment we provide for our diverse community of students and staff.

We strongly believe in the value of Māori and Pacific knowledges and identities, and are equally proud of the global range of topics that our scholars study. We appreciate the qualities

and values each student brings to us during their time here. Our students can succeed here as themselves, being true to their values and beliefs, within our welcoming and supportive environment.

Thank you for exploring the opportunities we can offer you. I very much look forward to welcoming you as a student to our faculty.

Professor Robert Greenberg
 DEAN OF ARTS



*Tui, tui, tui tuia.
Tuia i runga
Tuia raro
Tuia i waho
Tuia i roto
Tuia i te here tangata.*

*Bind, bind, bind us together.
May it be woven above,
Emmeshed below,
Entwined outside.
And within our very beings,
Interlaced by threads of
human love.*

Welcome to TUITUI!
Tuitui contains stories of our successful Māori and Pacific students. We share these stories to show that you as Māori and Pacific students and your whānau and ainga are welcome here. This is a place where Māori and Pacific students not only survive, but thrive. As our ancestors showed their courage and skill as they journeyed across Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa / The Pacific, so

we welcome you here as you continue on your educational journey.

We offer a wide range of support for you as a Māori or Pacific student as you study and excel with us. This ranges from Tuākana community of learning through to Arts+ peer support through to Unibound to support you as you transition into university life and study. We also provide various forms of financial support.

We recognise that we are in Aotearoa and the Pacific in 2021. As such, we are committed to embedding Māori and Pacific values into the entire life of our faculty. This means that the gifts and knowledge and strengths that you bring as Māori and Pacific students into the classroom and into our faculty life are welcomed and incorporated, alongside the highest levels of global knowledge that our academics excel in.

And when you graduate, you will be in demand. A Bachelor of Arts degree from

the University of Auckland will enable you to engage with a rapidly changing society, equipping you with a range of global skills and knowledge that are in high demand from employers. From central and local government through to private enterprise, from media companies through to iwi and community organisations, all want what our graduates have to offer. You can build a career, and serve your people.

Tuitui means to bind together. So come, be bound together with knowledge and skill and strength. Tui, tui, tui tuia!

Dr Hirini Kaa
KAIĀRAHI, FACULTY OF ARTS





Whāia te iti kahurangi ki te tūohu koe me he maunga teitei

Seek the treasure you value most dearly: if you bow your head, let it be to a lofty mountain

Faith Tuiloma

Tēnā koutou katoa and Talofa lava. My name is Faith Tuiloma and I am the first in my family to attend university. I am proud to be Māori (Ngā Puhī, Ngāti Kahu, Ngāti Porou) and Samoan (Sapunaoa Falealili, Vailu'utai) as I get to experience the best of both worlds. I'm still on a journey of finding my identity and the University has played a part in doing so. Here's a little insight on my educational journey so far.

"I transitioned from a small, local intermediate in South Auckland to a very large college – Epsom Girls Grammar School – near the city. It was a big change but I made good friends, got used to my new routine and was on my way. I am grateful for going through that season of change as it prepared me for the transition into university.

"I was never certain of what I wanted to study. It was difficult for me to connect the things that I was good at with the things that I was passionate about. I was always fascinated by Criminology and Law, and so I decided to study them. Having Māori identity encouraged me to further engage with my culture and study the language.

"I enjoy listening and engaging in conversations with my lecturers, tutors, mentors and peers about all sorts of issues and events. My subjects have given me a new pair of critical glasses to wear when looking at different issues around the world.

"Education is a value that has been instilled in my siblings and me. Studying at the University of Auckland will open doors that my family were never able to walk through, and I am proud to be the first to not only step foot through those doors but also hold them open for my whānau.

"Family is an extremely important value to me. The sense of family itself encompasses many values such as aroha, whanaungatanga, ambition

and motivation. I will always remember and appreciate my family making the most of the little that we had. My grandparents pushed my parents to become more than they thought they could be, and my parents did the same for me. A common theme in my upbringing would be to surpass the generations before you without leaving them behind. It is because of them, I am where I am today.

to benefit the community? Success does not even have to stay within the sphere of education itself. Any level of knowledge, skill or resource can amount to success.

"In high school, I always thought I had to have a set plan before entering university – boy was I wrong! It may take time to settle into your new classes, you may even need to switch your whole degree



Faith (third from left) with her whānau.

"There are many support systems within the university for Māori and Pasifika students. The Tuākana programme in Arts and Māori Academic Programme (MAP) and Pacific Academic Strategies for Success (PASS) in Law have been a huge help and I would highly recommend them to others.

around, but that is okay! Think of it as a road trip, with pit stops and detours, and the destination will be worth the journey."

Faith is studying towards a Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Laws in Māori Studies and Criminology.

"Success can typically be seen as the attainment of an education, but I think true success comes in its application. What is the use in achieving high standards and not using that knowledge





**E fofu lava le alamea,
ile alamea**

Resolutions are formulated
within people

Sabrina Salome Wright-Fanua

Talofa Lava, malo le soifua maua ma le lagi e mama. O lo'u igoa o Sabrina Salome Wright-Fanua ma ou te sau mai nu'u o Luatuanu'u, Leusoali'i, Salelologa, Gataivai and Tufutafoe. E 24 o'u tausaga ma o lo'o o'u aoga nei i le Iunivesite o Aukilani.

"I spent most of my early school years until the beginning of high school in Samoa. Moving to New Zealand in pursuit of a better education, I went to Mangere College and received a scholarship for the University of Auckland.

"Education was always something deeply connected within our family. In the early 2000's my mother and I would catch the bus together to go to primary school. She would pick me up after work and we would catch another bus to the university where she attended evening classes, completing her undergraduate degree. She was also the main breadwinner in the family, looking after her parents and raising six kids under the age of 10. It is her example that I held on to when moving to New Zealand.

"I always knew that I wanted to study and understand people and cultures of the world. Through my BA, I was able to study Anthropology and Pacific Studies, which offered courses about different communities of people in the world and more specifically my own Pacific people.

"Studying here was important to my family and me because of how Pacific the University, and Auckland in particular, had become. I was able to get an education while remaining rooted in my culture, in our stories of belonging, as well as being surrounded by my family and friends.

"The most important value in my Samoan culture that I proudly carry and uphold in my life is the value of tautua (service). This concept is the amalgamation of all other values of alofa (love), fa'aaloalo (respect) and fa'amaoni (integrity). At university, I get to experience Samoan culture through service within cultural groups and as a Tuākana mentor for first-year Anthropology students.

"I continue to serve as a Mangere College alumna by being a guest speaker, mentor, and exam supervisor. I am also part of Every Nation Church Southside where I serve in the kids' ministry.

"My support systems include my family: my mother, my late father, my seven siblings – and my friends. At university I have had wonderful mentors, including: Associate Professor Damon Salesa, Sili Mireta Pita, Naomi Fuamatu, Fuimaono Dylan Asafo, Dr Jemaima Tiatia-Seath and Dr Marcia Leenen-Young.

"Success to me is being able to meet and serve the needs of different communities in New Zealand especially the marginalised and most importantly, Pacific communities. It's being able to serve my family through upholding cultural values in every sphere of life I am a part of. I hope I can ultimately help affect change in New Zealand especially in Pacific communities."

Salome completed a Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Laws in Anthropology and Pacific Studies, a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Pacific Studies, and is now studying for a Master of Arts in Pacific Studies.

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Arts+

Arts+ connects you with a mentor within your Arts courses, from Orientation right through to your exams. Arts+ will be there for you from day one to help you transition into university and to support you in your studies. Your mentor will be at your first tutorial to help you get to know each other.
www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/arts-plus

Scholarships

Getting a scholarship doesn't need to be difficult. Every year the University of Auckland gives out scholarships and prizes worth over \$50 million to thousands of students just like you. Scholarships are amounts of money given to you to help with university education and you don't always need high grades to get one. Categories for school-leavers include academic excellence, Māori and Pacific students and anyone who has the ability to succeed but is experiencing financial hardship.
www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/scholarships

Tuākana Arts

Tuākana Arts is the Māori and Pacific academic community in the Faculty of Arts. We're here to help you through your journey at university, and to achieve your full academic potential. We offer wānanga, workshops, mentoring, and many other services for our teina. The principles of kanohi ki te kanohi and whakawhanaungatanga are vital to everything we do.
www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/tuakana

UniBound

If you are a Māori or Pacific school leaver, UniBound can prepare you for study at the University of Auckland.
www.unibound.ac.nz

Tertiary Foundation Certificate (TFC)

The TFC programme supports the University's belief that anyone capable of studying at tertiary level should be given that opportunity. The major factors for your success in this programme are regular attendance, motivation and determination to maintain the necessary effort.
www.tfc.ac.nz

Useful web addresses

Te Kura Tangata Faculty of Arts
www.arts.auckland.ac.nz

Arts degrees
www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/programmes

Māori students at the University
www.auckland.ac.nz/maori

Pacific students at the University
www.auckland.ac.nz/pacific

Entry requirements
www.auckland.ac.nz/admission

How to apply for admission
www.auckland.ac.nz/applynow

Fees and finances
www.auckland.ac.nz/fees
www.auckland.ac.nz/studentloansandallowances

Scholarships
www.auckland.ac.nz/scholarships

Accommodation
www.auckland.ac.nz/accommodation

For frequently asked questions
www.auckland.ac.nz/askauckland

Arts graduate careers
www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/graduates



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NAMING MYSELF

“Tusitala”
teller of tales
that I never heard
till yesterday
born away
for another life

Today
the tale I tell
is my own
theirs yours
a way of seeking
some more
of Sāmoa
of my sacred centre

The tale I tell
will book its way
through tongued histories
timeless mysteries
sanctioned violence
spaces of silence
telling lives

“tala tusi”
tell the book
worded spirit of brown
in theory creativity
our sound made
renown

*Associate Professor
Selina Tusitala Marsh,
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