What is a PhD?
The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is an advanced research degree requiring a thesis based on original work. Completing a PhD will help you in your pursuit of an academic or research career. Directed by an appointed supervisor, the programme is three to four years of full-time research. The resultant research is presented in a thesis that is assessed by external examiners appointed by the University. Many students publish aspects of their research while enrolled for their PhD. Publications done under supervision for the PhD may be included in the thesis.

Why choose the University of Auckland?
We are ranked among the top 100 universities in the world1.

Established in 1883, we provide a globally-recognised education to over 40,000 students, including more than 6,000 international students from over 110 countries.

We have an excellent reputation in the graduate job market, ranking highly when employers around the world are asked to identify the universities with the best graduates (see table at right).

We have the largest university library in New Zealand, including specialist libraries for some disciplines.

Auckland, New Zealand
• Ranked 3rd in the world for quality of living2.
• Vibrant, ethnically diverse city of 1.5 million people. New Zealanders are known for being warm, welcoming and friendly.
• The main centre of business and industry in New Zealand, one of the world’s safest and most beautiful countries.
• Magnificent harbour setting, offering many outdoor recreational opportunities as well as art, cultural and sporting events.

We provide a huge range of student services including academic and English-language support, career development and employment services, childcare facilities, a health centre, counselling and spiritual support for students from diverse backgrounds.

Our team of dedicated International Student Support staff is available to help you with a range of issues including study advice, immigration, health, budgeting, accommodation and personal support. We also provide an all-hours emergency phone number.

We offer the PhD degree in 100 different subjects across eight faculties and two large-scale research institutes:

- Arts
  www.arts.auckland.ac.nz
- Business and Economics
  www.business.auckland.ac.nz
- Creative Arts and Industries
  www.creative.auckland.ac.nz
- Education and Social Work
  www.education.auckland.ac.nz
- Engineering
  www.engineering.auckland.ac.nz
- Law
  www.law.auckland.ac.nz
- Medical and Health Sciences
  www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz
- Science
  www.science.auckland.ac.nz
- Liggins Institute (medical research)
  www.liggins.auckland.ac.nz
- Auckland Bioengineering Institute
  www.abi.auckland.ac.nz

International outlook
We are ranked 40th in the world in the Times Higher Education (THE) Top 200 most international universities in the world 2016. Our international connections provide a strong platform to staff and students for international opportunities, research collaboration and recognition:

• We maintain over 190 active bilateral partnerships with major research universities around the world.
• We are a member of three prestigious research-led university consortia: Universitas 21, the Association of Pacific Rim Universities and the Worldwide Universities Network.

www.auckland.ac.nz/international-networks

Research
The University of Auckland supports the work of over 50 research units, centres and institutes including two internationally-renowned Large Scale Research Institutes: the Liggins Institute and the Auckland Bioengineering Institute.

We host or co-host five of the ten New Zealand Government funded Centres of Research Excellence (CoREs):
• Maurice Wilkins Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery
• The Medical Technologies CoRE
• Te Pūnaha Matatini. The Centre for Complex Systems and Networks
• Brain Research New Zealand
• Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga (New Zealand’s Indigenous Centre of Research Excellence)

We also host two of New Zealand’s National Science Challenges (High-Value Nutrition and A Better Start), and we are a collaboration partner for another eight of the 11 challenges. Read about our research and discover the strengths of each faculty at www.auckland.ac.nz/research

World university rankings*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Auckland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Faculty area
- Arts and Humanities 28
- Social Sciences and Management 36
- Engineering and Technology 59
- Life Sciences and Medicine 70
- Natural Sciences 134

Individual subjects
- Archaeology 20
- Education 23
- Development Studies 26
- Psychology 29
- English Language & Literature 31
- Nursing 32
- Law 32
- Accounting & Finance 34
- Geography & Area Studies 38
- Engineering – Civil & Structural 41
- Architecture / Built Environment 44
- Anthropology 49
- Social Policy & Administration 49
- Linguistics 49
- Business & Management Studies 50

Other subjects in the top 100 worldwide:

Our reputation with employers
- Life Sciences and Medicine 12
- Engineering and Technology 19
- Social Sciences and Management 25
- Natural Sciences 25
- Arts and Humanities 40

*QS World University Rankings 2016/2017, Rankings by Faculty 2015/16, Rankings by Subject 2016, Rankings by Faculty (Employer Reputation) 2015/16.

1 QS World University Rankings 2016/2017.
2 Mercer Quality of Living Rankings 2016.
Entry requirements

- Based on academic merit.
- You must also demonstrate a proven ability to carry out research independently, and possess a high level of critical research skills and theoretical understanding.
- In general, you must have completed a relevant masters degree with the equivalent of University of Auckland first class or second class (division I) honours, or a relevant bachelors degree with the equivalent of University of Auckland first class or second class (division II) honours.
- Acceptance is also subject to the availability of staff for supervision, and appropriate facilities.

English language proficiency

- If English is not your first language, you must provide evidence of your English language proficiency before you can start your PhD.
- Minimum requirements: IELTS (Academic) 6.5, with no band less than 6.0 (or equivalent).
- We accept other English language tests such as TOEFL, Cambridge English, Pearson Test of English and MELAB.
- Results must be no more than two years old.
- Higher scores are required for entry into Law and Translation Studies.
- You may apply for the PhD programme and receive a conditional offer even if you have not yet met English language proficiency requirements.
- If you have received an offer of place for the PhD programme conditional on meeting English language requirements, we offer a pathway through our English Language Academy. See pg. 4 for details.

FindaThesis

Our online FindaThesis tool is a database of research opportunities at the University. Whether you are searching by area of interest or looking for a specific project, FindaThesis provides detailed information about projects, potential supervisors and more.

www.findathesis.auckland.ac.nz

Scholarships

University of Auckland Doctoral Scholarship

- 200 awarded annually to new international and New Zealand doctoral candidates.
- Provides living costs (NZ$27,300 in 2017) plus tuition fees for three years, with the possibility of a 6-month extension.
- Indicate if you wish to be considered for this scholarship when you complete your PhD application. There is no separate application.
- All offers for this scholarship are made at the same time as the offer of place.

Development scholarships

- Students from developing countries may be eligible to apply for a scholarship funded by the New Zealand Aid Programme.
To find out more about these and other scholarships, visit our website.

www.auckland.ac.nz/is-scholarship

University PReSS fund

- PhD candidates are automatically entitled to research support funding through a Postgraduate Research Student Support (PReSS) account for up to four years.
- Use it for things like research-related travel costs, attending conferences, and printing and binding your thesis.

Doctoral Skills Programme

- Provides regular workshops and seminars to help PhD candidates develop the skills required to successfully complete a doctorate.
- Includes modules on how to plan for an academic career and help for those looking for careers outside academia.
- Participating is easy: the online DSP Hub outlines the skills a doctoral candidate needs, presents the options available to enhance each of those skills, and provides online workshop booking and helpful web links.
- All workshops, seminars and modules provided are free of charge.

Accommodation

Our University residences provide a safe and comfortable place to live. All are furnished and located within easy walking distance of the City Campus. We welcome single students, couples and families. We can also assist you to find suitable private accommodation if you prefer not to live in a University residence.

www.accommodation.ac.nz

Visa and work rights

As a full-time international PhD student you may work in New Zealand while studying. On completion of your PhD, you may apply for a 12-month Post-study work visa (open). If you are able to find a suitable job in your chosen field, you may then apply for a two-year Post-study work visa (employer assisted).

www.immigration.govt.nz

Benefits for family

Your spouse or partner may apply for an open work visa valid for the duration of your PhD.

Dependent children are classified as domestic students and can attend New Zealand’s primary and secondary schools at the same subsidised rates as New Zealand children.

Zonglai Mo is a China Scholarship Council scholar. He is studying for a PhD in Mechanical Engineering.
How to apply for a PhD at the University of Auckland

PhD applications may be submitted at any time during the year. Apply online at www.auckland.ac.nz/apply-for-a-doctorate

Step 1: Learn about our doctoral regulations and requirements
Read the PhD Statute and Guidelines (available on our website) and ensure you meet the academic requirements for entry into the PhD programme.
Look at some doctoral theses in your area of interest to get a sense of the standard of research you are expected to achieve. You can access online doctoral theses through the University Library: www.library.auckland.ac.nz/theses

Step 2: Choose your area of interest
Decide upon, and clarify as much as possible, your area of research interest or potential research topic. Search for a research opportunity using our online tool FindaThesis at www.findathesis.auckland.ac.nz, or look at relevant faculty or department websites. Consider the research interests and publications of academic staff. Note: You may nominate a supervisor in your application but it is not necessary.

Step 3: Complete and submit an online Application for Admission (AfA)
Before you begin your online application, you should have the following ready in electronic format:
- Academic transcripts and the grading scale for the university where you have studied.
- Initial Statement of Research Intent.
- CV or résumé.
- If English is not your first language, any approved English language test scores from the last two years.*
  For information about approved English language tests and required scores, see www.auckland.ac.nz/is-english
- Copy of your masters thesis and/or publications, to show evidence of your research ability. If your thesis is not in English, you may be asked to provide a detailed abstract in English.

After submission, your application will be acknowledged by email. In this email you will receive a login and password to allow you to check the progress of your application online. The email will list the certified documents that we require in order to verify your personal details and entrance qualifications.
You will also be required to arrange for two Doctoral Referee Reports from academic staff of your home university. References must be sent to us directly from your referees. Your application will be considered by appropriate academic staff and you will be informed of the decision by the School of Graduate Studies.

*English language pathway
You may apply for the PhD programme without evidence of English language proficiency. If your application is successful, you will be offered a place in the PhD programme conditional on meeting English language requirements. The University offers a pathway to meeting requirements through our English Language Academy’s Foundation Certificate in English for Academic Purposes (FCertEAP) or the fast track English Pathway for Postgraduate Studies (EPPS).
www.auckland.ac.nz/fcerteap
www.auckland.ac.nz/epps

Application help
Our website offers a step-by-step outline of the application process and instructions to help you work through the Application for Admission (AfA): www.auckland.ac.nz/apply-for-a-doctorate
If you require further assistance with the AfA process please contact postgradinfo@auckland.ac.nz
Frequently asked questions are answered at AskAuckland.ac.nz

International Office
The University of Auckland
Private Bag 92019
Auckland 1142
New Zealand
Phone: +64 9 923 1969
Fax: +64 9 373 7405
Email: int-questions@auckland.ac.nz
Web: www.international.auckland.ac.nz
FAQs: AskAuckland.ac.nz

School of Graduate Studies
The University of Auckland
Private Bag 92019
Auckland 1142
New Zealand
Phone: +64 9 923 1969
Email: postgraduate@auckland.ac.nz
Web: www.postgrad.auckland.ac.nz
FAQs: AskAuckland.ac.nz