Interested in the PhD in Law at The University of Auckland?

The Doctor of Philosophy is the ultimate step in the academic study of the field of law.

The Faculty of Law has long-established strengths in private and public law, and our academics are in the vanguard of increasingly important specialisations including environmental law, international law, human rights and international litigation and dispute resolution. The Faculty boasts leaders in many fields of public, private and commercial law, with a range of specialisations including international and comparative law, environmental law and criminal law and justice.

The University of Auckland is located in the heart of Auckland’s CBD, within walking distance from the beautiful Hauraki Gulf.

General information

The PhD degree is governed by the general University PhD regulations. It is a thesis-only research degree usually requiring full-time study for three to four years at The University of Auckland. The degree is undertaken under supervision, typically by a lead supervisor and a co-supervisor, both of whom will be senior academics. PhD candidates must complete a sustained course of research resulting in the production of a substantial original thesis that meets internationally recognised academic standards. Information about Doctoral scholarships can be found by visiting: http://www.auckland.ac.nz/scholarships.

Do you have any specialist Research Centres?

Yes! In total, there are three specialist research centres at the Faculty of Law that may be able to provide academic supervision and research resources. They are:

- New Zealand Centre for Environmental Law
- New Zealand Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice
- Research Centre for Business Law

PhD students at Auckland Law School have full access to the resources in The Davis Law Library, the largest Law Library in New Zealand, and a well-recognised legal research resource throughout the Asia-Pacific region.
What are the admission requirements?

A candidate applying for admission into the PhD in Law programme is required to have:

a) Completed the requirements for the award of a Masters degree with First Class or Second Class (Division I) Honours at the University of Auckland or equivalent; or:
b) Completed the requirements for the award of a Bachelors degree with First Class or Second Class (Division I) Honours at The University of Auckland or equivalent

If you are an international student, and you do not have a degree taught in English at a recognised institution, you will need to sit an IELTS or TOEFL test. You will need:

- 7.00 IELTS, with a minimum writing band score of 6.50, or
- 100 TOEFL computer-based, with a minimum writing score of 24 out of 30

Where to from here?

If you are interested in applying for the PhD, an Application for Admission (AfA) form needs to be filled in as the first step, along with your relevant attachments including your proposal and transcripts. Please complete this as soon as possible. Please visit: [http://www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/for/future-postgraduates/how-to-apply-pg/apply-for-a-doctorate](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/uoa/home/for/future-postgraduates/how-to-apply-pg/apply-for-a-doctorate)

You will need to write a brief research proposal of 10-12 pages to be submitted with your AfA.

Prior to working with a supervisor, we would need to establish your eligibility for the programme, and will assess your research proposal while canvassing potential supervisors (but you are more than welcome to suggest possible supervisors that you are aware of). As such, you aren’t required to get in contact with any potential supervisor yourself prior to submitting your AfA.

Once you have submitted your AfA I will keep you up to date with your application and inform you of any additional information that may be required. If you have any questions about the PhD programme or your application please do not hesitate to contact me at j.tannion@auckland.ac.nz