Want to solve the **BIG ISSUES**?
Where will YOUR VOICE be heard?
NAU MAI, HAERE MAI,
AND WELCOME TO THE
FACULTY OF LAW AT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED ACADEMIC STAFF

2020

100+ SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN TO 100+ LAW STUDENTS

90% OF LAW STUDENTS ARE STUDYING CONJOINT DEGREES

GLOBAL ALUMNI NETWORK

ACTIVE STUDENT COMMUNITY—SOCIETIES, EVENTS, COMPETITIONS

RANKED AMONG THE TOP LAW SCHOOLS IN THE WORLD

STUDY IN NEW ZEALAND’S VIBRANT LEGAL AND POLITICAL HEART

MEET LEADING LAWYERS, JUDGES, POLITICIANS, DIPLOMATS, AND SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

BASED IN THE HISTORIC GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, OPPOSITE THE BEEHIVE AND BESIDE THE SUPREME COURT

Global alumni network

Study in New Zealand’s vibrant legal and political heart

90% of law students are studying conjoint degrees

100+ scholarships open to 100+ law students

Internationally renowned academic staff

Active student community—societies, events, competitions

Ranked among the top law schools in the world

Meet leading lawyers, judges, politicians, diplomats, and senior government officials

Based in the historic Government Buildings, opposite the Beehive and beside the Supreme Court
Cover and inside cover: Victoria University of Wellington’s Faculty of Law provides students with opportunities to learn skills that are essential for practising lawyers. Law student Te Kooanga Awatere-Reedy is pictured presenting her client’s case in a mock-court mooting session, and with classmate Jeffrey Wang outside the Faculty of Law, which is located in the heart of the city.
Victoria University of Wellington’s Faculty of Law can offer you an education unlike any other.

We live and breathe our capital city status—not only in terms of our physical location across the road from the Courts, Parliament, and public sector institutions, but also in our mandate to help shape and inform law and legal policy issues in New Zealand.

Our law school is a unique hub of debate, analysis, discovery, and dialogue for students, teachers, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners who each play a role in the intellectual life of the capital city. We sit among the top 40 law schools in the world, according to the 2018 QS World University Rankings, and are ranked first in New Zealand for the quality of our research.

As a student, you receive the benefit of a virtuous cycle—the world-class research undertaken here feeds into what we teach, and what is discussed and explored in lectures and tutorials informs that research. Our academic staff are known for their abilities to draw on, and share with students, insights garnered through the mix of practice and theory.

In welcoming you to the Law School, I welcome you not only to our warm and vibrant community of staff and students, but also to the neighbourhood—New Zealand’s political and legal heart. We are here to support you and to challenge you, to provide an environment where you will learn, think, question, grow, and thrive.

Make the most of what lies ahead.

Professor Mark Hickford
Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Law
STUDYING LAW

Studying Law demands in-depth discussion and critical analysis. As a result, Law graduates acquire skills in communication, problem-solving, research, and independent thinking—all of which are prized by employers in many different fields. You will learn to apply the techniques of legal analysis and receive a comprehensive grounding in the important subject areas of the law, including commercial law, common law and statute law, international law, and public law.

- Commercial law is about business and commerce, regulating, corporate contracts, employment, and the manufacture and sale of consumer goods.
- Common law and statute law are the two main components of New Zealand’s legal system, which is derived from England’s legal system. Common law is the body of law built up from individual court decisions; statute law is made by Parliament.
- International law governs interactions and relations between nations.
- Public law is about the relationship between individuals and the State. Constitutional law, administrative law, and criminal law are all aspects of public law.

PLANNING FOR LAW SCHOOL

SUBJECTS TO TAKE AT SCHOOL

There are no prerequisites or preferred subjects. Choose subjects at school that you find most interesting, as these are generally the ones in which you will do well. Subjects such as Classics, English, and History will provide a solid basis of essay writing, and Economics, Mathematics, Music, Physics, and languages encourage analytical thinking. However, many subjects, other than those mentioned above, can develop your skills in essay writing and analysis.

COMBINING DEGREES WITH A BACHELOR OF LAWS

Law can be combined with any discipline, and the most popular subjects are Accounting, Criminology, Economics, History, International Relations, Philosophy, Political Science, and Psychology. Combining degrees in Law and languages is also common.

ADMISSION AND ENROLMENT

You may enrol in the first year of a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) provided you have a university entrance qualification and, if you are a school leaver, you meet Victoria University of Wellington’s Guaranteed Entry Score.

- www.victoria.ac.nz/apply

If you are a university graduate, you may be permitted to enrol in 100-level Law courses and some 200-level Law courses concurrently. Refer online for the policy regarding graduate entry to the LLB.

- www.victoria.ac.nz/llb
I chose this university because of the reputation of its Faculty of Law and the support I was offered from Disability Services for my dyslexia. The team here has been amazing—the services they offer allow me to succeed.

The scholarship I received made the transition to university life smoother than it would have been otherwise. It just takes a lot of that stress off. I’ve wanted to study law for years and the scholarship makes it a lot easier.

My favourite class so far has been LAWS 122 Introduction to Case Law, which offers compelling insights into how law evolves over time. It’s a great way to see how common law works in New Zealand and the Commonwealth, and how a law that starts in 1887 in England has developed all the way through our courts to play a part in a case that could be happening today.

One of my strongest memories so far has been seeing senior lecturer Dr Grant Morris performing his annual law-themed song—to the theme tune from Moana. I’ve enjoyed the opportunity to meet people from different backgrounds through my studies. That’s the great thing about scholarships in general—they allow people who have so many different life experiences and points of view to come here, and everyone gets a broader picture. You develop empathy that way.

My first year at university confirmed for me that I’d made the right choice—I’m genuinely interested in what I’m learning.
Wellington is a beautiful region that makes the most of its natural setting. It’s home to a busy harbour, beaches, mountains, miles of coastline, and acres of native bush to explore.

Located in the heart of the city, the Law School is housed in the historic Government Buildings, across the road from the centre of New Zealand's government, the Beehive. Most first-year courses are held at the University's Kelburn campus, but from second year onwards you’ll spend the majority of your time at the Law School, part of the University’s central city Pipitea campus. The Law School has its own Library and common room, and is perfectly located to enjoy the best of Wellington’s coffee and café culture.

The city is compact enough to get to most places on foot. It also has an excellent public transport system that includes trains, buses, and a rather special cable car.

Whether you’re in search of active adventures, cultural experiences, special events, great cafés, fun activities, good shopping, a memorable night out, or just something free—Wellington’s got you covered every day of the week.

**TOP 10 WELLINGTON MUST-DOS FOR STUDENTS**

1. **WANDER THE WATERFRONT**
   The waterfront is a great place to go walking, running, skating, and biking, or to just sit and relax. On Saturdays there’s the Underground Market and, on Sundays, the Harbourside Market.

2. **EXPERIENCE THE NIGHTLIFE**
   Wellington has thriving theatre and music scenes with live shows every night of the week. The city prides itself on being the culinary capital and there are always new dining options to try.

3. **TOUR PARLIAMENT**
   Definitely not just for politics students, a tour of the Beehive is for anyone with an interest in art, architecture, and how decisions are made in New Zealand. It’s also free.
Victoria University of Wellington and its students are a vital part of Wellington’s colourful character. Get out there and make some memories!

4. **INDULGE YOUR LOVE OF MOVIES**
   Wellywood is home to Weta Workshop and the New Zealand Film Archive. It also has many cinemas, some of which have student discounts or cheap nights. In summer, outdoor movie theatres often pop up around the region.

5. **TAKE IN TE PAPA TONGAREWA**
   Spend a rainy day touring New Zealand’s national museum for free. While you’re at it, check out the award-winning Wellington Museum.

6. **WALK WITH THE ANIMALS**
   Wildlife and native bush eco-sanctuary Zealandia and Wellington Zoo both have discount pricing for students.

7. **CHECK OUT CUBA STREET**
   Known as New Zealand’s coolest street, colourful Cuba Street is a haven for buskers, bohemians, coffee-lovers, vintage shoppers, and culinary enthusiasts.

8. **GET ACTIVE**
   Hitting the mountain biking trails, taking a dip in Oriental Bay, surfing at Lyall Bay, walking the town belt, and sailing or kayaking on the harbour are just some of the ways Wellingtonians enjoy the great outdoors. Get the free WellyWalks app and explore Wellington on foot.

9. **PACK A PICNIC**
   Stop and smell the flowers at Wellington Botanic Garden or take the ferry over to Matiu/Somes Island or Days Bay and Eastbourne one sunny day.

10. **ENJOY THE VIEW FROM THE TOP**
    Head up to the Mount Victoria lookout for panoramic views of Wellington.
BACHELOR OF LAWS

The first year consists of three LAWS courses, together with non-Law courses of your choice. Offered in the first trimester, LAWS 121 is open entry, subject to the University’s admission criteria. A pass in LAWS 121 is a prerequisite for both LAWS 122 and LAWS 123.

FIRST-YEAR LAW

LAWS 121, 20 points (1/3)
Introduction to New Zealand Legal System

An introduction to the New Zealand legal system and its relationship to government, Parliament, and the Courts; the place of the Treaty of Waitangi in the legal system; an introduction to the constitutional framework; and an introduction to critical, theoretical, and cultural perspectives on the legal system, including race and gender issues.

Course coordinator: Grant Morris

LAWS 122, 15 points (2/3)
Introduction to Case Law

An introduction to case law technique and the doctrine of precedent; an introduction to case law reasoning skills; the social context of judicial reasoning; and the interaction between case law and legislation.

Course coordinator: Joanna Mossop

LAWS 123, 15 points (2/3)
Introduction to Statute Law

An introduction to the process of legislation; the techniques of statutory interpretation and legislative drafting; the interaction with case law interpretation; and the impact of various other issues on interpretation principles and methods.

Course coordinator: Māmari Stephens

LECTURE STREAMS

To accommodate all the students who enrol in the three first-year courses, the Faculty offers three lecture streams for each of these courses at different times. Two lecture streams are held at the Kelburn campus, and one stream is held at the Pipitea campus. Most other 100-level course lectures are held at the Kelburn campus.

Refer to the course finder on our website for timetable information and the course reference number (CRN) for your preferred lecture stream. Check your timetable carefully before selecting a stream. If a stream is full, you will be assigned to another one. Once you have been assigned to a stream, you must stay in it. If you do need to change lecture streams, you will need to discuss this with an undergraduate student adviser. Note that there is no distance-study option for undergraduate law study. Lectures are a vital aspect of the learning of law and non-attendance makes it extremely difficult to grasp the topic and gain the necessary skills.

www.victoria.ac.nz/course-finder

100-LEVEL TESTS AND EXAMINATIONS

Assessment for 100-level Law courses includes a terms test and a final examination. Because of the size of the classes, and to ensure that all the lecture streams can sit at the same time, these tests are scheduled on a Saturday or an evening. Test dates will be in the course outline, and the final examination dates can be found at www.victoria.ac.nz/timetables
JASMINE COX

Student, Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts in French and International Relations Recipient of the Victoria Law School-Leaver Scholarship

I’m originally from Tauranga and I never had any doubt about choosing to study in Wellington. The reputation of the Law School and its proximity to Parliament made Victoria University of Wellington the ideal choice.

When I received a scholarship from the Law School, it was a welcome surprise. I was absolutely stoked. It gave me an incentive to push myself and do well in my first year.

My experience of first-year Law has been exciting—if a little scary at times. Transitioning from high school to the university learning environment came as a shock at first. My first Law lectures were terrifying. Being told you would be asked questions randomly in front of 300 other people seemed daunting. The first time I was called on as part of the Socratic method was an experience I won’t forget. I was very lucky, and I got the answer right—but the lecturer came back to me later because the girl beside me didn’t know an answer—and I was caught off guard! I really enjoyed my first-year Law classes and eventually found myself raising a hand to offer answers even before I was called on.

After my studies, I would love to work for a non-governmental organisation such as Amnesty International, and later in the diplomatic corps. I’ve always been keen on doing volunteer work and helping to make a difference in whatever way I can—I’d like to use my Law degree more for going to remote places in the world and giving legal aid, rather than going into the corporate world.

I’m feeling positive about the next stage of my studies. It’s going to be interesting—I’m going to have to work hard, but I’m looking forward to it.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

There is considerable variation in the assessment of Law courses. In some, assessment is based on in-term tests and a final examination. In others, assessment is based on essays or opinions (an opinion is the Faculty’s equivalent of an essay and means your legal opinion on a matter) completed during the trimester and there is no final examination. Every course has mandatory requirements (also called ‘terms’) that must be satisfied for completion of the course. These vary from course to course—in some, a mandatory attendance or a minimum mark in a test or essay may be required for terms. Assessment and terms requirements are set out in the course outline for each course.

GETTING HELP WITH STUDY

If you have a problem relating to a particular course, talk to the lecturer or course coordinator. If the issues are more general and relate to course selection or your whole course of study, see a Law undergraduate student adviser. If they can’t help you sort out the issue, they’ll be able to tell you where to find the appropriate support.
PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The recommended study plan below shows which courses are included in your study for an LLB and in which trimester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2*</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trimester 1</td>
<td>Trimester 2</td>
<td>Trimester 1</td>
<td>Trimester 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAWS 121 20 points</td>
<td>LAWS 122 15 points</td>
<td>LAWS 297 10 points</td>
<td>LAWS 213 30 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Law elective</td>
<td>LAWS 123 15 points</td>
<td>LAWS 211 30 points</td>
<td>LAWS 301 30 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Law elective</td>
<td>Non-Law elective</td>
<td>LAWS 212 30 points</td>
<td>LAWS 312 15 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Law elective</td>
<td>LAWS 214 30 points</td>
<td>LAWS 300 level 15 points</td>
<td>LAWS 300 level 15 points</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Non-Law elective courses can be in any subject. You must complete 90 points of electives (five or six electives to make 90 points).

* See page 16 for further information about completing the 200-level courses over two years.

FEATURES OF THE DEGREE

Our LLB has the following features:

- It is a full-time four-year degree comprising 480 points.
- The LLB can be combined with a second degree and takes a minimum of five years’ study. This is known as a conjoint degree. Popular combinations are an LLB with a Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Commerce (BCom), or a Bachelor of Science (BSc).
- The LLB consists of 21 Law courses and 90 non-Law points selected from subjects in other degree schedules.
- Each undergraduate Law course has three hours of lectures per week.
- There is also a tutorial (small group) programme for LAWS 121–123, LAWS 211–214, and LAWS 301.
- You should expect to allocate 9–10 hours’ study time per week per course, including lectures and tutorials.
- Most Law courses have a final examination.
DISCUSSION-BASED LEARNING

Many teachers in the Law School use a method of teaching known as discussion-based learning, sometimes called the Socratic method. Law lecturers teach by asking students questions about the material being studied and using their answers to explore key points. The Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching), Professor Graeme Austin, explains this below.

People have different views on what discussion-based learning is all about. Some of our teachers use the term ‘interactive classroom’, which is also a good description. The classroom becomes a kind of ‘ideas laboratory’. We expect students to express their own ideas about the legal issues at stake in the materials being studied. Through classroom discussion, lecturers and students test ideas together. This process enhances our understanding of the law.

The way we teach here also helps to develop students’ analytical skills and builds their confidence in speaking about legal issues. The law can have a big impact on people’s lives—and people often need legally trained professionals to speak for them. Lectures, seminars, and tutorials provide opportunities for our students to practise relevant skills.

For me, at least, discussion-based learning has these key components:

- Both the students and the teacher are responsible for moving the classroom conversation forward. Lecturers here don’t want students to sit passively in the classroom, taking down what we say. We want students to be actively involved in the classroom discussion.

- It’s about testing assumptions. One of a lawyer’s key roles is to test assumptions, to make sure that ideas hold up to scrutiny. You’ll often hear teachers here say, “Yes, but …”, constantly encouraging students to think again about tried-and-true ideas.

- It enhances understanding of what’s at stake. Our students are encouraged to look at legal issues from a range of different perspectives. Students might be asked to defend a position (What can you say in its favour?) or to criticise it (What can be said against it?). This process strengthens analytical skills and deepens understanding.

In the Law School’s classrooms, we examine fascinating and profoundly important questions through the lens of the law. Discussion-based learning makes the process hugely rewarding.
I was in private practice in a large commercial law firm in Wellington for a long time before teaching, and I have a particular approach to the law that might be called pragmatic. I am always asking ‘What does your client want in this situation? Have you thought of all the issues and angles in this problem?’ It is surprising how little you actually get to read (or even refer to) actual law in practice, instead, often drawing on experience, a keen appreciation of what the client’s goal is and a good understanding of what they need to do to avoid technical non-compliance with the law.

I wanted to be a lawyer from about age 10 as my best friend’s father was a lawyer and I thought his job was really interesting. I didn’t know it at the time, but later found out that both my grandfathers had been lawyers practising in provincial law firms (one in Hamilton and one in Waimate).

After practising law for so many years, I realised that I actually love learning about the law, and decided that teaching the law was the best way to continue learning—one of the joys of being employed by the University, as opposed to a law firm, is that you actually get time to think deeply about legal issues.

A highlight of my job is hearing that I have managed to make a subject fun to learn. I always try to apply the law to real-life situations in my classes, as that is what the students will face when they get out of law school and start practising law.
SECOND-YEAR LAW

The second year of the LLB is a block of four full-year courses taken over two years: the Law of Contract, the Law of Torts, Public Law and Criminal Law, and the shorter Legal Research, Writing and Mooting course. On admission to second-year Law, students take LAWS 297 Legal Research, Writing and Mooting with either two or three of LAWS 211–214 and so complete the 200-level Law courses over two years. Taking all five 200-level Law courses in one year is a very heavy workload and not advisable. To be immersed in enough law for a successful learning experience, take two or three (not one) 200-level Law courses with LAWS 297 Legal Research, Writing and Mooting. In LAWS 297, you will learn how to use the Law Library and computer databases, how to refer to and cite legal sources, and how to prepare legal opinions. You will also be required to argue a case before a judge in a mock courtroom.

Selection criteria

Selection criteria apply for admission into second-year Law. Students applying for 200-level Law courses are selected on their grade-point average (GPA), with preferred entrant status being given to those who have a B average over LAWS 121, LAWS 122, and LAWS 123. Different criteria apply (i) under the Māori Admissions Process, (ii) for transferring students, (iii) for graduate enrolment, and (iv) if there are exceptional circumstances.

Māori admissions process

As part of its ongoing commitment to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, the Faculty allocates up to 10 percent of places in second-year courses to students accepted under the Māori Admissions Process. More information is available from the kaiakiaki/Māori engagement adviser.

Izzy Wilson
Kaiakiaki/Māori Engagement Adviser
Room GBG29, Government Buildings, Pipitea Campus

📞 04 463 6305
✉️ maorilawsc@vuw.ac.nz

THIRD- AND FOURTH-YEAR LAW

The third and fourth years of the LLB provide an opportunity to broaden and deepen your legal knowledge. You will be able to choose from a variety of courses at this stage in the degree—so choose wisely for the benefit of your legal study and your future legal career.

All students must complete LAWS 301 Property Law (30 points) and LAWS 312 Equity, Trusts and Succession (15 points) in their third year, or fourth year if studying for a combined degree. To qualify for admission to the Bar, you will need the elective LAWS 334 Ethics and the Law (15 points). Altogether, you may choose 11 courses from a range of one-trimester electives. The electives offered will vary from year to year.

BACHELOR OF LAWS WITH HONOURS

If you perform very well in three 200-level Law courses, you may be invited to join the Bachelor of Laws with Honours (LLB(Hons)) programme in your third or fourth year. While sharing many components with the LLB, the LLB(Hons) is a separate undergraduate degree that extends students’ research, writing, and analytical skills in a range of specialist areas.
SCHOLARSHIPS

The University is committed to providing scholarships that recognise and encourage high achievement, leadership, and diversity, and help remove the barriers to university study that exist for students facing hardship or disadvantage. In recent years, our scholarships for school leavers have grown significantly, with a variety of opportunities available.

We also support a large number of postgraduate scholarships for Honours, Master’s, and Doctoral students.

You can search online for scholarships you may be eligible for, to check if you are eligible to apply, and to find up-to-date information and application forms.

www.victoria.ac.nz/scholarships
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

There are two leadership development programmes for students who are interested in global citizenship or in making a more local contribution.

VICTORIA INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

The Victoria International Leadership Programme (VILP) is a unique and rewarding extracurricular programme aimed at advancing students’ knowledge of global issues, providing leadership challenges, and enhancing their cross-cultural awareness. It is free for all the University’s degree students. The programme is an agent for producing active, global citizens who address the challenges of our globalised world and are equipped for the international marketplace.

If you are interested in languages, world affairs, cultural diversity, sustainability, overseas exchange, and international opportunities, then VILP is the programme for you.

The main themes of VILP are:

■ cross-cultural communication
■ global interdependence
■ global leadership challenges
■ New Zealand in the world
■ sustainability.

The programme includes:

■ an exclusive seminar series on challenging topics based around VILP’s main themes
■ frequent events with distinguished international speakers
a selection of global citizenship activities ranging from dialogue with diplomatic ambassadors to conservation volunteering, as well as professional and personal development opportunities in Wellington, nationally, and internationally.

You are able to complete VILP over the course of your degree. Successful completion is acknowledged on your academic transcript and with a certificate.

All students are also encouraged to apply for the $1,000 VILP Global Leader Grant, which will assist your participation in a Victoria Abroad exchange as part of your degree.

The programme is open to current students and encourages interaction between international and domestic students, undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and across all faculties and degree disciplines. The programme makes full use of Wellington’s location as the political centre and cultural capital of New Zealand as well as the University’s links with stakeholders at a local, national, and global level.

www.victoria.ac.nz/vilp

VICTORIA PLUS PROGRAMME

The Victoria Plus Programme is the University’s prestigious service and leadership development programme. It is for students who want to get involved and make a significant contribution to volunteering and student support work within the University and the Wellington community. You undertake the programme alongside your degree and successful completion is acknowledged on your academic transcript.

Victoria Plus is a free programme, open to all current students. You can tailor the programme to suit your schedule, studies, and interests and be involved from your first year of study. There are two levels of achievement—Certificate and Award. Both levels comprise three components: attending professional and personal development workshops, being engaged in activities, and reflecting on your learning using the CareerHub ePortfolio.

By participating in the programme, you have the opportunity to:

- develop a range of skills and graduate attributes to enhance your CV and employability
- build an understanding of social responsibility and leadership
- gain valuable experience and broaden your thinking and learning
- network, meet people, and connect with your community.

www.victoria.ac.nz/victoria-plus
Victoria Abroad is a student exchange programme offering you the opportunity to travel while studying towards your degree.

You don’t need to wait until after graduation to travel. With Victoria Abroad, you can complete one or two trimesters of your degree overseas, while paying your normal tuition fees. We’ll even help you finance your trip with a grant of $1,000.

Go on an exchange to experience new cultures and perspectives and make lasting friendships around the world, all while earning credit and enhancing both your degree and CV. See the world and New Zealand through new eyes.

Victoria Abroad is geared toward undergraduate study and is open to most degrees. There are also postgraduate opportunities at some of our partner institutions. Both domestic and international students are eligible to study on exchange.

Victoria Abroad has more than 140 partner universities stretching across five continents, giving you the opportunity to study in some of the world’s most prestigious universities. Through Victoria Abroad, you can study anywhere from Argentina, Canada, Denmark, France, Hong Kong, Mexico, Singapore, or Spain, and many places in between. A full list of exchange destinations is on our website.

More than half our exchange partners teach in English. For the others, you’ll need to have appropriate proficiency in the host country’s teaching language—the exchange may provide a great opportunity to increase your fluency in a second language.

**ELIGIBILITY**

To apply for Victoria Abroad you must:

- have studied for a complete year, or 120 points, at Victoria University of Wellington before starting your exchange
- have a minimum B average across your academic history at the University
- have successfully completed all compulsory Law courses
- demonstrate qualities that show you will be a good ambassador for the University and New Zealand while abroad.

**FUNDING**

When you go on Victoria Abroad, you’ll be enrolled as a Victoria University of Wellington student and pay tuition fees here, not at the host university. You’ll be responsible for your travel, accommodation, materials/books, and personal expenses during your exchange. These costs vary between universities.

Most students fund their travel and living costs through a combination of scholarships, StudyLink, and personal savings. Students eligible for StudyLink Loans and Allowances can receive these while on exchange. We help by offering a grant of $1,000. If you’re a member of VILP, you may be eligible for an additional boost to your Victoria Abroad grant (see page 18).

**APPLICATION DEADLINES**

For application deadlines, go to our website.

**VICTORIA ABROAD OFFICE**

Victoria International, Level 2, Easterfield Building, Kelburn Campus

✉ victoriaabroad@vuw.ac.nz

ℹ www.victoria.ac.nz/exchange
SERVICES AND SUPPORT

LAW STUDENTS’ SOCIETY

The Victoria University of Wellington Law Students’ Society (VUWLSS) is the representative body for Law students, run by Law students. We work with other representative groups at the Law School to improve the lives of students during the five (or so) years spent studying at university. We have two main roles as an organisation: advocacy for Law students and running events for them. The events are educational, career-based, competitive, or social.

The educational events are to help students with their studies. Revision sessions are run for all the compulsory 200- and 300-level courses before tests and exams to give students some last-minute help for their assessments. Each year, we put on the annual Wellness Week, which is dedicated to helping students focus on their physical and mental health, especially in the lead-up to exams.

We work with law firms to run two mentoring programmes, pairing younger students with Law School veterans and final-year students with professionals in the legal profession. This is to create a culture where students can get the help they need from older students or alumni who have been in their position.
We are also responsible for running the annual Law School competitions. With support from several law firms and the New Zealand Law Students’ Society, we put on four competitions each year, with divisions for senior and junior students. These include mooting, negotiation, witness examination, and client interviewing. Winners of these competitions go on to compete in (and win!) the National and Australasian finals held at different universities across New Zealand and Australia. These competitions help Law students develop practical legal skills, meet lawyers in the profession, and compete against some of the best students in the country.

We also play a role in making sure students are aware of what career options are available to them and how to go about applying for them. We run a series of Careers in Focus seminars where we invite panellists to speak to students about a range of careers, including those in the public sector, consulting, criminal law, and litigation to name just a few. We also provide students with information and resources when they are deciding to sit their Professional Legal Studies course following the completion of their Law degree.

Finally, VUWLSS is well known for the social events it puts on for members. Each year, the social calendar begins with the annual Law Camp where we welcome the second-year cohort to Law School over the first weekend of term. We run a range of events throughout the year, including pub quizzes, a cocktail night, rainbow movie evenings, and the Law ball. There is a social event for everyone, providing an invaluable opportunity for students to meet one another and relax away from their studies.

In all of the events, we work with various representative groups at Law School that run their own initiatives too. These groups include Ngā Rangahautira (Māori Law Students’ Society), the Pasifika Law Students’ Society, the Asian Law Students’ Association, and the Feminist Law Students’ Society. If you’re interested in any of these organisations, make sure you reach out and get involved—all of them run fantastic events and do great work in their communities.

Joining VUWLSS is easy. Our office is open between 9 am and 5 pm on weekdays and there is almost always someone there. Otherwise, you can email us. Membership costs $20 and gets you discounts for events, special deals at different shops around Wellington, and keeps you in the loop with everything happening at the Pipitea campus. So, if you want to buy a membership, ask any questions about what we do, or just borrow our iron for those last-minute interviews—swing by!

**LAW STUDENTS’ SOCIETY**

Room GBG16, Government Buildings, Pipitea Campus

📞 04 463 6304

✉️ vuwlss@gmail.com

🌐 www.vuwlss.com
I’ve always wanted to create positive change and make a difference to the world. I chose to study Law because it opens up so many different career pathways and will give me the skills to create meaningful changes for Pasifika and Māori communities in New Zealand—particularly within the justice system. My ultimate career goal would be to follow in the footsteps of great Pasifika women such as Justice Ida Malosi and Lagi Tuimavave [the University’s former Pasifika law coordinator].

Wellington is such a great place to study Law. The Law School is central to the Courts and Parliament, so it really is in the best location. It’s really inspiring being able to look out the window and see government in action.

There are many opportunities for learning experiences and to gain connections with others for life beyond study. I am a member of the Pasifika Law Student’s Society, which has allowed me to build connections with other students who have similar cultural backgrounds and experiences.

I found the first year of Law quite challenging as it was completely different to anything I had studied in the past. I’m really enjoying the second year, learning about more in-depth topics with a specific focus. My favourite course so far has been LAWS 212 Torts. The lecturers are all very invested in their areas of expertise—you can see it in their teaching. Some of the cases you learn about are almost like scripts for a terrible dramatic play, and they make the course more enjoyable.

My main piece of advice for those starting out in their Law degree would be to get excited! Law is a challenging, but rewarding, area of study. It requires hard work and commitment. Stay open-minded and don’t get caught up in the competition. Keep things in perspective and have a clear picture of what made you want to study Law in the first place. Studying has given me a more in-depth understanding of the world. I question more, challenge more, and constantly see things that need to be changed. It has helped me to adopt a critical lens and look deeper into issues I once didn’t fully engage in.
MĀORI STUDENT SUPPORT

The kaiakiaki/Maori engagement adviser works as part of the on-campus whānau for Māori students, Āwhina. At Āwhina, our kaupapa (goal) is to provide academic and holistic support for Māori students enrolled in any degree or course. Our experienced staff offer one-on-one advising and mentoring sessions, tutorials, and study wānanga, and a range of workshops to help you achieve your study goals. Our culturally inclusive environment includes whānau rooms with computer facilities, study areas, free tea and coffee, a small kitchenette to prepare food, and space to meet with peers or tuākana (older students). We can help you transition successfully from secondary education or work into tertiary education. Nau mai, haere mai—come and visit us at the Kelburn, Pipitea and Te Aro campus spaces listed on our webpage.

Izzy Wilson
Kaiakiaki/Māori Engagement Adviser
Room GBG29, Government Buildings, Pipitea Campus

04 463 6305
maorilawsc@vuw.ac.nz

Māmari Stephens
Academic Adviser to Māori Students

04 463 6319
mamari.stephens@vuw.ac.nz

www.victoria.ac.nz/tautoko

NGĀ RANGAHAUTIRA

Ko Ngā Rangahautira tētahi rōpū e tautoko ana i ngā mahi a ngā akonga Māori e whai ana i te tohu ture. Ko ngā mahi a Ngā Rangahautira, he tautoko, he akiaki i ngā akonga ki te whai I tēnei rākau ture a te Pākehā. He rōpū āwhina, tautoko i ngā akonga Māori ki te whakanui i tō tātou Māoritanga i roto i te ture.

Ngā Rangahautira is the Māori Law Students’ Association at the University. Its primary focus is to assist and support Māori Law students with their studies at Law School by fostering a commitment to tikanga Māori and ngā ture Pākehā. As a Māori student completing an LLB, you can be elected as a representative on the executive committee. The committee aims to provide a fun and safe whānau environment that increases awareness and understanding of Māori issues that are encountered at Law School. Māori students are encouraged to participate in events run by Ngā Rangahautira, which include a first-year event, Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori, a sports day, BYOs, an alumni breakfast, and an internal mooting competition.

Ngā Rangahautira has wide-reaching support from the Wellington legal and political community. This includes our alumni, who are involved in different facets of the professional world and keep in close contact with us on a social and professional level.

Every year, Ngā Rangahautira works towards actively participating in the conference organised by Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa, where Māori Law students from all over the country gather to interact with lawyers, judges, academics, politicians, and each other. Ngā Rangahautira actively encourages new Law students, who are Māori, to participate and be guided through an exploration and expression of their Māoritanga in the law. Once a member of Ngā Rangahautira, always a member of Ngā Rangahautira.

NGĀ RANGAHAUTIRA / MĀORI LAW STUDENTS’ ASSOCIATION

Room GB140C, Government Buildings, Pipitea Campus

04 463 6329
vuw_nr@myvuw.ac.nz
PASIFIKA STUDENTS

The Pasifika engagement adviser provides advice and assistance for Pasifika Law students and is part of a team that fosters Pasifika learning and teaching communities in an environment that is welcoming, safe, and focused on academic excellence, personal growth, and wellbeing. Pasifika students have access to a mentoring programme, support tutorials, course-specific study sessions, exam-oriented preparation, and workshops that support learning and development as well as meeting cultural desires. Holistic support could include chatting over a cup of tea, devising time-management strategies, and discussing learning objectives. The Pasifika team will help you navigate the crossing into tertiary study and looks forward to welcoming you on board. There are Pasifika spaces at the Kelburn, Pipitea, and Te Aro campuses.

PASIFIKA LAW STUDENTS’ SOCIETY

The Pasifika Law Students’ Society was established by students with the aim of encouraging and maintaining Pasifika success and growth within the Faculty of Law while providing a social and supportive environment. We work together on initiatives with the Pasifika engagement adviser to aid our goals and aims, and to ensure the student voice is being heard. Members of the society also organise and take part in social and academic events throughout the year—one of them being an annual law conference in which students have the opportunity to participate in mooting and present papers on topics of their choice.

Belonging to the society is a great opportunity to meet other students from a similar cultural background, not only within the University but also from other universities. Pasifika ideals in the Faculty are promoted by the society and, in its role as a representative body, it is affiliated to the Victoria University of Wellington Students’ Association.

LAW LIBRARY

Housed in the southern end of Government Buildings, the Law Library plays an integral part in the study of the law and you will use it increasingly as you progress through your degree. It contains a comprehensive collection of New Zealand legislation, law reports, journals, treaties, textbooks, and other legal material. It provides access to many New Zealand and international legal databases, including LexisNexis and Westlaw, as well as to a range of databases through the University network and the internet.

PASIFIKA ENGAGEMENT ADVISER

Room GBG27, Government Buildings, Pipitea Campus

04 463 6303
pasifikalawsc@vuw.ac.nz
www.victoria.ac.nz/pasifika

pilss.vuw@gmail.com

www.victoria.ac.nz/library
AFTER YOUR BACHELOR’S DEGREE

GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES
A graduate from the University’s Faculty of Law should have:

■ a thorough grounding in the core techniques of legal analysis that enables them to analyse any new issue rigorously, critically, and innovatively

■ competence in fundamental legal skills, including oral and written communication using the conventions of legal discourse

■ the ability, when faced with legal problems, to identify the central issues, to analyse, evaluate, and apply relevant principles to address the issues identified, and to develop solutions to these issues and strategies to implement them through the use of effective research strategies using a range of technologies; and to appreciate the value of empirical research

■ a broad and systematic knowledge and understanding of the main doctrinal principles in the core areas of law

■ an understanding of the role of law in society (the law and the processes by which it functions); keen awareness of the social, economic, political, and cultural context in which law operates; appreciation of the nature and contribution of different perspectives on law and theories of law

■ an appreciation of the importance of integrity and ethical behaviour in using and advising on the law

■ an understanding of the need for collaborative and cooperative behaviour in professional life

■ an understanding of the interface between the New Zealand legal system and the legal systems and customary laws of Māori and Pacific peoples and of the implications of this interface for contemporary New Zealand society

■ sensitivity to gender, ethnic, cultural, and other differences; awareness of the role of stereotypes and how they structure thought.
The Faculty offers a flexible postgraduate study programme based on world-class research-led teaching. It is designed to suit a variety of interests and requirements, from recent graduates wishing to enrich their undergraduate degrees to lawyers seeking professional development.

The Faculty’s Master of Laws programme has a strong reputation. Experienced academics individually supervise thesis and dissertation research (ideal for researching a topic relevant to work or interest), and most seminar-based courses have a significant research component.

The Faculty’s own research publication, the Victoria University of Wellington Law Review, offers an opportunity for postgraduate students to have their work published, and the New Zealand Journal of Public and International Law offers world-class writing on those specialty areas.

A vigorous and ongoing programme of conferences, public lectures, and international visitors provides a stimulating and supportive learning environment.

www.victoria.ac.nz/postgraduate-law

LAW PROFESSIONALS

When you have finished your Law degree, you will probably take professionals (known as ‘profs’). To be admitted to the legal profession in New Zealand, Law graduates must complete requirements prescribed by the Council of Legal Education. One of these requirements is the completion of a practical, professional legal studies course. Go to the websites below for information about the two providers that offer this training, either by distance or as a three-month course.

www.collaw.ac.nz

www.ipls.org.nz
Employers look for enthusiasm and passion as well as good grades. They hire graduates who are able to explain why they chose their particular course of study and why they enjoyed it. A good attitude to life, study, and work is what gives graduates the competitive edge when applying for jobs.

A Law graduate is not limited to practising law in a law firm. Many graduates use the attributes they have obtained from studying Law to work in other fields such as broadcasting, business, the creative arts, government, industry, journalism, ministries, non-governmental organisations, or politics.

Law students are invited to a number of events throughout the year that are organised by the University’s Careers and Employment team. These include:

- career fairs, where relevant employers showcase career options and recent graduates share tips
- distribution days, where law firms distribute information about internship opportunities and graduate recruitment programmes
- Careers in Focus seminars, which are informal get-togethers where graduates discuss their experiences in the profession—they feature graduates from a variety of jobs, including roles in the public sector, criminal law, dispute resolution, litigation, and technology companies.

Find out what you need to know to get a job, what career options are open to you, and what your ideal future might look like.

Our graduates can be found in a range of roles, in New Zealand and overseas. Some examples are:

- academic
- advocate
- diplomat
- entrepreneur
- in-house legal counsel
- journalist
- lawyer
- mediator
- policy analyst
- politician.

CAREERS AND EMPLOYMENT
Room HU120, Hunter Building, Kelburn Campus
☎ 04 463 5393
✉ careers-service@vuw.ac.nz
🌐 www.victoria.ac.nz/careers

CAREERHUB
Get access to a range of jobs from part-time work to graduate positions, resources to help with CV and interview preparation, and careers and employer information sessions. You can book careers appointments, workshops, and events. Use your student computing account to log in.

🌐 www.victoria.ac.nz/careerhub
ERIN MATARIKI CARR
NGĀI TŪHOE, NGĀTI AWA

Graduate, Bachelor of Laws with Honours and Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

I chose to study Law because it’s about people and the values we as a community choose to live by. Though law is invisible, it sets the underlying tone for how we regulate ourselves as a group. Studying Law teaches you to debate clearly and craftily, and you can become a useful advocate for the causes you seek to support. This is particularly true at Victoria University of Wellington, which has a strong focus on tikanga Māori (the Māori legal system), the Treaty of Waitangi, the concept of tino rangatiratanga and sovereignty, and how all of these evolve within New Zealand’s constitution and legal system.

The highlights of my time at the Law School were Ngā Rangahautira (our Māori Law students’ association), Te Herenga Waka marae for the aroha, support, and good laughs, and the amazing little city of Wellington! I also went on exchange to Mexico to improve my Spanish language skills and got involved with the Victoria International Leadership Programme to learn what leaders in different areas of study and development are doing.

Since leaving the University, I have worked at Chapman Tripp in Auckland, practising corporate/commercial law in Te Waka Ture, a team designed to assist post-settlement Māori organisations. My next move was home to Tāneatua to work for my iwi, Tūhoe, as a policy writer/kaimahi o Te Urewera. Tūhoe’s ancestral land, Te Urewera, has now been vested with her own legal personality, which means she can sue for any harm caused to her. Last year, the Te Urewera board launched Te Kawa o Te Urewera, the new management plan for the area, a ground-breaking document that weaves tikanga Tūhoe into the law.

My main advice for your time at the Law School is to be methodical in your work and to contribute to the community of people you study with. Be humble in your learning as it is a true privilege to take on the challenge of tertiary study.
DISABILITY SERVICES
If you have a temporary or ongoing impairment, we can assist you with coaching and advice, liaison with academic staff, adaptive equipment, technology and training, sign language interpreting, note-taking assistance, mobility parking, ergonomic furniture, and access to rest and study rooms.

www.victoria.ac.nz/disability

PUBLICATIONS
Publications can be downloaded from our website or requested in hardcopy by contacting Student Recruitment and Orientation (0800 VICTORIA (842 867)).

Your Introduction to Victoria University of Wellington (February) gives a brief overview to the University’s degrees and student life.

Guide to Undergraduate Study (July) includes all information students need about first-year courses, degrees, student life, and how to apply to enrol.

Guide for Parents (May) answers questions parents have about sending their children to university.

Accommodation Guide (May) gives information about each hall of residence and how to apply, as well as details about other accommodation options.

www.victoria.ac.nz/publications

STUDENT FINANCE
Get information and advice related to fees, payments, student levies, and StudyLink.

Student finance advisers will give you information on all money matters, including StudyLink entitlements. The advisers also manage the Hardship Fund.

www.victoria.ac.nz/fees

www.victoria.ac.nz/financial-advice

STUDENT LEARNING / TE TAIAKO
Student Learning staff can work with you on academic writing, study, and maths support for all levels of your study. You are welcome to attend workshops, one-to-one appointments, and access helpful resources.

www.victoria.ac.nz/student-learning

VIC BOOKS AND CAFÉ
One hundred percent student owned, Vic Books is at the Kelburn and Pipitea campuses. Buy your textbooks (new and used) and student notes online or in store, as well as general books, stationery, Victoria University of Wellington-branded memorabilia, gifts and gift cards, and Coffee Supreme.

www.vicbooks.co.nz
VICTORIA ACCOMMODATION

Contact us for advice on our halls of residence, renting, and other accommodation options. We can assist with processing applications and offers for halls of residence.

› www.victoria.ac.nz/accommodation

VICTORIA CLUBS

More than 140 clubs at the University provide an extracurricular community for students to get involved.

› www.victoria.ac.nz/clubs

VICTORIA INTERNATIONAL

Victoria International is responsible for international student marketing and recruitment, admissions, and student support. For international students enrolled here, our student advisers can help with personal issues, academic support, cultural adjustment, connecting with other students, referral to university services, specialised scholarship support, student visa renewal, insurance claims, and advocacy.

› www.victoria.ac.nz/international-student-support
WHO TO CONTACT

LAW FACULTY/SCHOOL OFFICE
At the Law Faculty/School Office, you can get information and guidance, pick up your assignments, collect or read examination scripts, apply for a copy of your academic record, and collect publications and forms. Faculty-specific forms can also be printed from the Law School website.

Room GBG31, Government Buildings, Pipitea Campus

📞 04 463 6366
✉ law-enquiries@vuw.ac.nz
🌐 www.victoria.ac.nz/law

FACULTY STUDENT AND ACADEMIC SERVICES
The Student and Academic Services team supports students through their study, from enrolment to graduation. The undergraduate student advisers offer information on admission, qualifications, and assessment of prior study, course advice and selection criteria, prerequisites, and enrolment. Get help with choosing your degree, planning your courses, or changing your degree programme.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ADVISERS
Room GB109, Government Buildings, Pipitea Campus

📞 04 463 6433 or 04 463 6483
✉ law-undergraduate@vuw.ac.nz

MĀORI AND PASIFIKA ADVISERS
If you are a Māori or Pasifika student studying Law, get help with tutorials, mentoring, and study skills sessions.

✉ maorilawsc@vuw.ac.nz
✉ pasifikalawsc@vuw.ac.nz