

Helping you thrive at the University of Canterbury

Christchurch, New Zealand



Grow and thrive in New Zealand

As an international student, you will experience all that Aotearoa New Zealand has to offer, from dynamic cities to breathtaking landscapes and unlimited outdoor adventure.



1st
safest study destination



3rd
most peaceful country*



18th
in the world for education^



11th
in the world for natural environment



Up to 3-year
post-study work visa

About Christchurch



Happiest City
in New Zealand
(2024 Happy City Index)



15-30%
cheaper than other major cities to live
(Christchurch, NZ)



2nd
largest city in New Zealand



#1
job prospects in New Zealand
(MBIE, 2025)

University of Canterbury

Upon completion of your studies at UC International College (UCIC), students will transition to the University of Canterbury to continue their educational journey.



Ranked in the
top 2%
of universities
worldwide
(World Higher Education
Database, 2023)



QS
5 STAR
rating



Ranked 2nd
in New Zealand
for employability
outcomes and
employer reputation



Ranked 3rd
in New Zealand
for the research
intensity of its
academic staff



Why UCIC?

UC International College (UCIC) provides high quality academic support and resources to international students at the University of Canterbury. Our purpose is to prepare and help students to succeed academically, equipping them with the confidence to develop their full potential.

UCIC offers small classes and personalised, one-on-one engagement with lecturers. Alongside helping develop English language and study skills, UCIC focuses on the self-development, personal growth, and resilience of students while they transition into a new university life in Christchurch, New Zealand.

While studying at UCIC, students encounter a nurturing and culturally diverse environment, enjoying access to a huge range of services and opportunities both within and beyond the classroom. These opportunities provide them with the chance to explore and connect with like-minded individuals who share similar interests and passions.

UCIC Quick Facts



Fast track into your dream degree at the University of Canterbury within 4-12 months



Small classes with experienced and caring teaching staff



Be a UC student from Day 1

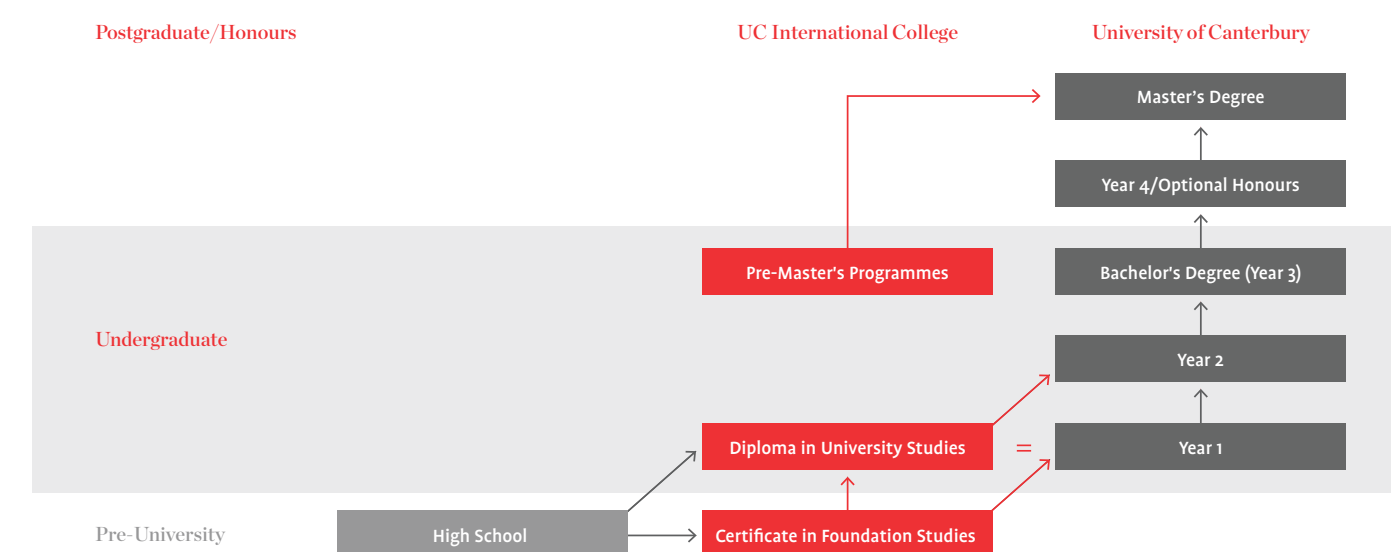


Enjoy life on the beautiful UC campus



A proven track record of excellence with a 98% progression rate into higher study

Your pathways to UC



Certificate in Foundation Studies

The Certificate in Foundation Studies is equivalent to the final year of secondary school study and is designed to bridge the gap between high school and university entrance. In the Foundation Programme students complete a set of core courses, a numeracy elective and three courses from an area of focus (Arts, Commerce, Engineering, and Science).

The course **Global Intercultural Citizenship** develops students' understanding of the key concepts of cultural identity and cultural diversity, with an emphasis on the unique local bicultural context of Aotearoa New Zealand and explores strategies for promoting intercultural empathy and collaboration at a global level.

Students choose from other elective courses including Media & Communications, Psychology, Sociology, Information Design, Economics, Accounting, Management & Marketing, Chemistry, Physics, Statistics, Biology & Programming.

The course **Sustainable Citizenship** introduces students to the principles of sustainable development and develops analytical skills required to assess the impact of human activities both locally and globally.

Intakes

February, June, October

Duration

2 Trimesters (8 months)

Academic Requirements
The academic entry requirements into the Certificate in Foundation Studies vary by country/region. For a full list of academic entry requirements, visit ucic.ac.nz/admissions/academic-requirements

Qualification	Requirement
International Baccalaureate	Completion of Year 1 of the IB
GCSE/IGCSE	Completion of Year 11 with passing grades in four (4) academic subjects
New Zealand - NCEA	Completion of a minimum of 36 credits from Level 2 and 3, with at least 10 credits in each of the three (3) UE approved subjects

Certificate in Foundation Studies Programme Outcomes
Upon successful completion, students will transition to the first year of any degree at the University of Canterbury or to UCIC's relevant Diploma in University Studies programme.



“ I think life at UCIC is both exciting and challenging. UCIC has taught me to embrace new experiences, and thanks to UCIC, living in New Zealand feels like home to me even though it is far from Taiwan.”

Yuli
Taiwan
Certificate in Foundation Studies, UCIC

Study Abroad Certificate

The Study Abroad Certificate is a one-semester programme designed to give students a taste of what student life is like at UC International College. Students can choose three academic courses from one stream while experiencing the best of what New Zealand has to offer.

If you want the chance to study in beautiful New Zealand and are looking to diversify your current study plan during a gap trimester, then UCIC's Study Abroad Programme may be for you.

Study Stream

• Engineering
• Commerce
• Science

Duration

1 Semester (4 months)

Study Abroad is a one semester programme designed to allow students to improve their English language skills while undertaking three academic subjects and credit their courses to future study at home or in New Zealand.

For more information, contact your local agent or reach out to us at admissions@ucic.ac.nz



Diploma in University Studies

The Diploma in University Studies comprises eight courses and is completed in three trimesters spanning 12 months of study. Students are able to complete their Diploma in one of three areas of specialisation - Commerce, Engineering or Science – before completing the final years of a range of bachelor’s degrees and subject majors at UC.

DipUS – Commerce

A degree in commerce gives you the knowledge and skills to succeed in the global business environment. Students studying commerce at UCIC complete core courses in Accounting, Economics, Management, Statistics, and Information Systems, as well as a range of electives to ensure students are able to choose from the entire array of majors in the Bachelor of Commerce.

Intakes

February, June, October

Duration

3 Trimesters (1 year)

DipUS – Science

Studying science helps students understand the world through observation, experimentation, modelling and calculation. At UCIC we focus on developing students' skills and abilities in computational science that allow them to progress into subject areas such as Computer Science, Financial Engineering, Mathematics, and Statistics. Our students are also able to pathway into the Bachelor of Data Science.

Intakes

February, June, October

Duration

3 Trimesters (1 year)

DipUS – Engineering

Engineering is a four-year degree that provides students the opportunity to pursue one of eight disciplines in their final three professional years of study. University of Canterbury engineering graduates can work as qualified engineers all over the world. In their first year at UCIC, students build a foundation of knowledge in Engineering Processes, Mathematics, Physics, and Computer Science.

Intakes

February, October

Duration

3 Trimesters (1 year)

Academic Requirements

The academic entry requirements into the Diploma in University Studies vary by country/region. For a full list of academic entry requirements, visit ucic.ac.nz/admissions/academic-requirements

Qualification	Requirement
International Baccalaureate	Completion of at least 18 points across six (6) subjects
Cambridge International Examinations	Passing grades in at least two A or AS level academic subjects with at least 3 points overall
New Zealand - NCEA	Completion of a minimum of 10 credits in each of three UE approved subjects at Level 3

What Bachelor’s degrees can you do at UC?

After completing Diploma Programmes, students will transition into their 2nd year at the University of Canterbury. Students can choose from a wide selection of majors in the Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Engineering, and Bachelor of Data Science, which will help them achieve their dream career.

While studying at UCIC, students also get in-study work rights, allowing them to work up to 25 hours per week.

#2

for employment outcomes in Aotearoa New Zealand (QS World Rankings, 2025)

#5

for employment outcomes in Australasia (QS World Rankings, 2025)



“New Zealand is such an amazing place – it’s safe and peaceful, and the people are very friendly and welcoming. The staff and other students here at UCIC are super supportive and that has made all the difference in my study success. I love it here!”

Paul
Papua New Guinea
DipUS: Engineering, UCIC

Pre-Master’s Programmes

The Pre-Master’s Programme offers a pathway into postgraduate study for international students who don’t meet prior study requirements, increasing access to master’s degree programmes in Business, Engineering, Science, Health, Education, and Arts.

One Semester Pre-Master’s

The UCIC-taught One Semester Pre-Master’s Programme provides an accelerated pathway into postgraduate study for international students who hold a bachelor’s degree but do not meet entry requirements. Upon completion of the Pre-Master’s programme, you will be able to enter a range of master’s degrees across Business, Engineering, Science, Health, Education, and Art disciplines.

The pathway comprises one semester of coursework that prepares you generally for postgraduate study at UC, including courses that develop skills and knowledge in cultural and bi-cultural awareness, communication, critical thinking, and data analysis.

Intakes	Duration
February, October	1 Semester (4 months)

Entry Requirements

To enter the One Semester Pre-Master’s Programme you must hold a **bachelor’s degree** and meet our English language entry requirements.

Pre-Master’s Programme Outcomes

Students finishing their Pre-Master’s Programme in June need to check that there is a suitable July intake for their preferred master’s programme. Visit www.ucic.ac.nz for an up-to-date list as additional master’s programmes and intakes might be added over time.

Pre-Master’s Programme	Programme Outcome	Entry to UC’s degree:	
One Semester Pre-Master’s	Continuation Master’s Programmes†	- Master of Applied Finance and Economics - Master of Civil Engineering - Master of Disaster Risk and Resilience - Master of Engineering Management - Master of Engineering Studies	- Master of Water Science and Management - Master of Geospatial Data Science - Master of Urban Resilience and Renewal - Master of Public Health - Master of Health Sciences
	Conversion Master’s Programmes‡	- Master of Applied Data Science - Master of Business Information Systems - Master of Business - Master of Financial Analysis - Master of International Relations and Diplomacy - Master of Virtual Production	- Master of Marketing - Master of Policy and Governance - Master of Strategic Communication - Master of Professional Accounting - Master of Illustration - Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
Two Semester Pre-Master’s	Continuation Master’s Programmes†	- Master of Artificial Intelligence - Master of Applied Finance and Economics - Master of Urban Resilience and Renewal	- Master of Water Science and Management - Master of Public Health - Master of Health Sciences
	Conversion Master’s Programmes‡	- Master of Applied Data Science - Master of Business Information Systems - Master of Business - Master of Financial Analysis - Master of International Relations and Diplomacy	- Master of Marketing - Master of Policy and Governance - Master of Professional Accounting - Master of Strategic Communication - Master of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

† Entry into some master’s programmes, listed as ‘Continuation Master’s Programme’ require applicants to have completed a prior study in a related subject area. Completion of the Pre-Master’s Programme does not change the requirement for relevant prior study into Continuation Master’s programmes.
‡ Entry into other master’s programmes, listed as ‘Conversion Master’s Programme’ allow students to enter with a prior study from any subject area.

Two Semester Pre-Master’s

The Two Semester Pre-Master’s Programme is a comprehensive pre-university pathway into master’s study for international students who hold an advanced diploma or an associate degree, but not a full bachelor’s degree.

Upon completion of the Pre-Master’s programme, you will be able to enter a range of master’s degrees across Business, Engineering, Science, Health, Education, and Arts disciplines.

The pathway comprises one semester of coursework that prepares you generally for postgraduate study at UC and a second semester in advanced undergraduate courses in your chosen fields of interest.

The first semester in UC’s Pre-Master’s Two Semester Programme is delivered exclusively by UCIC. The second semester courses are taught by UC.

Intakes	Duration
February, October	2 Semesters (8 months)

Entry Requirements

To enter the Two Semester Pre-Master’s Programme you must hold an **advanced diploma or associate degree**. You will also need to meet our English language entry requirements.

Scholarships



Global Student Awards February Intake 2026

All students who are academically eligible to study in a UCIC programme in February 2026 will receive a **Global Student Award** equal to 10% of their tuition fees.

Your Investment

Fees and charges for the 2026 academic year (GST inclusive)

Programme	2026 Tuition fees (NZD\$)
Certificate in Foundation Studies	\$27,470
DipUS — Commerce	\$36,100
DipUS — Science	\$40,138
DipUS — Engineering	\$44,476
One Semester Pre-Master’s	\$17,056
Two Semester Pre-Master’s	\$33,700
Study Abroad Certificate	\$13,065



What You Need to Know

Important Dates 2026/27

Diploma in University Studies and Certificate in Foundation Studies:

Trimester	Start Date	Mid-trimester Break	End Date
February 2026	9 February	28 March – 5 April	23 May
June 2026	8 June	25 July – 2 August	19 September
October 2026	5 October	19 December – 3 January 2027	23 January 2027

Pre-Master’s Programme:

Semester	Start Date	Mid-semester Break	End Date
February 2026	9 February	28 March – 5 April	7 June
September 2026	14 September	19 December – 3 January 2027	31 January 2027

English Entry Requirements

English language proficiency tests recognised for admission to UCIC:

Test	Certificate in Foundation Studies (CFS) Diploma in University Studies (DipUS)	Pre-Master’s Programmes (One and Two Semester programmes)
IELTS (Academic)	Overall 5.5 score (No band score below 5.0)	Overall 6.0 score (No band score below 5.5)
TOEFL Internet based test (iBT/Home edition)	Overall 46 score (Writing is not below 14)	Overall 80 score (Reading, Writing, and Listening is not below 19)
LanguageCert (IESOL)	B2 Communicator: CFS - Written (LRW) PASS and Spoken (S) PASS with no less than 25/50 in each skill DipUS - Written (LRW) HIGH PASS with overall 101 points and no less than 25/50 in each skill. Spoken (S) PASS with no less than 25/50 in each skill	C1 Expert (LRWS): Overall PASS, no less than 25/50 in each skill
CCEL’s English for Academic Purposes (EAP)	EAP 1 with a minimum C+ grade	EAP 2 with a minimum C+ grade
Duolingo	Minimum total score of 95 (No band below 80)	Minimum total score of 105
New Zealand NCEA Level 2 and/or 3	4 credits for Reading and 4 credits for Writing from the UE literacy OR 5 credits of Level 3 English Language standards	N/A

For a full list of accepted English language test for admissions, please visit: ucic.ac.nz/admissions/entry-requirements/english/

Christchurch College of English (CCEL)

CCEL is a highly rated English language school in New Zealand, located on the beautiful University of Canterbury campus in Christchurch. CCEL offers English for Academic Purposes (EAP) courses to help students achieve their goals of university study through enhancing their academic English skills. Upon successful completion of 12-week EAP 1 Programme, students can gain direct entry (without an external exam) to CCEL’s partner institutions, UC International College and the University of Canterbury.



Accommodation

UC Halls of Residence

Fun and lively catered and self-catered options for First Year students. Private single bedrooms with study area, access to university Wi-Fi network, and social programmes. The distance to school is a five minute walk from the main library and lecture halls.

Homestay

Live with a New Zealand family and have your meals provided. Included: Three meals a day, fully furnished room with study desk, bathroom and laundry facilities, local telephone calls and internet. Distance to school varies, but will be within walking distance or accessible by public transport.

Private renting

Private renting with other people can be a very affordable way to live and study in Christchurch. The suburbs around UC provide excellent options for students. Distance to school varies, but will be within walking distance or accessible by public transport.

For Under 18 Accommodation, contact UCIC Admissions admissions@ucic.ac.nz
For further information on UC accommodation options, visit: canterbury.ac.nz/life/accommodation or scan the **QR code**.



How to apply

To secure a place at UC International College, simply follow the steps below:

1

Choose your programme and desired start date

UCIC offers supportive pathway programmes across different streams.
See pages 4-6 to see which programme is best for you.
See page 7 for 2026 Semester Dates.

2

Check the entry requirements

To enter UCIC programmes students must meet both our Academic and English language requirements.
Visit ucic.ac.nz/admissions/entry-requirements for a complete list.
If you are unsure, email admissions@ucic.ac.nz

3

Seek advice from a UCIC representative

UCIC has a wide network of representative all over the world.
Our representatives will be able to assist you selecting your programme, or on how to help apply for a visa.
Visit ucic.ac.nz/find-agent for a complete list of our representative

4

Apply for admissions

You need to apply via ucic.ac.nz/how-to-apply and submit the following:

1. Certified copies of your academic qualifications
2. Evidence of your English language proficiency
3. A copy of your passport or any study permits
4. Any relevant employment documentation, if required

5

Accept your offer

If you are successful in securing an Offer of Place with us, congratulations! Read your offer letter and make sure you meet all conditions stated in the letter, accept the offer via myUC and make tuition fees payment to the UC bank account. This will secure your place!



UC  **INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE**
TŪ TE AO, CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND

ucic.ac.nz



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Part of **navitas** 

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