The motto of the University of Waikato is Ko Te Tangata “For the People” and this viewpoint is central to the teaching and research in Te Kura Aronui School of Social Sciences.

We are an intellectually diverse community of scholars with nationally and internationally recognised lecturers. Our curriculum is at the heart of real-world issues and covers subjects that will enable you to think critically about how individuals and groups in society relate to each other. Our teaching is designed to provide you with a diversity of skills and experiences aimed at improving your employability and giving you a qualification and skills that you can travel the world with, as well as enhance your chosen career and the multifaceted communities in which we live.

Our students work alongside our top-rated teachers and internationally respected scholars, across eight majors in our school: Anthropology, Environmental Planning, Geography, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Social Policy and Sociology. These majors can be taken towards a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSc).

Te Kura Aronui School of Social Sciences also offers two professional four year degrees: the Bachelor of Environmental Planning (BEP) and the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW).

For most degrees students choose at least one major/subject to specialise in, with the option of adding a second major or minor. Our minors and specialisation are excellent compliments to our range of qualifications.

We offer 3 majors and 1 professional degree at our Tauranga campus.

You will be accepted into the Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Environmental Planning (BEP) and the Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSc) if you achieve University Entrance (UE). The BSW has a selection process which requires further steps including police vetting and referee checks.

There are support services and facilities available to our students on both the Hamilton and Tauranga campuses. In Hamilton, our Student Advisors are located in the IJK Block reception area. In Tauranga you will find the Student Services team at the Tauranga campus on Durham Street. Alternatively you can also contact them on 07 838 4080 or alpss@waikato.ac.nz. Our student services team will be able to help you with programme advice, degree planning, re-entry and be your first port of call for any questions you may have regarding your studies.
We have dedicated Māori, Pacific and International mentoring units available for our students - their main function being to provide our students with academic support and pastoral care. In addition, there are also various student led associations across our Division that you can join to meet like minded students - they will become your home away from home.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Our students can study in either Hamilton or Tauranga.
- We have four qualifications available (BA, BSocSc, BEP, BSW) and 8 majors to choose from.
- Our Accredited degrees are Environmental Planning and Social Work.
- Our flexible teaching options mean students can study face-to-face or online.
- We have majors and minors with a focus on current issues and affairs.
- Study advising support is provided to all first year students.
ANTHROPOLOGY (BA, BSocSc) H

Anthropology is the study of humanity in all its fantastic diversity. Waikato’s Anthropology students learn from anthropologists who have a strong Pacific focus and engage in research across a wide range of crucial global issues. Cultural anthropology, our area of specialty, is the interpretation and appreciation of the vast array of cultural possibilities for human life. Studying Anthropology will challenge students to reimagine their assumptions about their own societies and cultures and develop a toolkit to critically understand their changing world.

Career Options
- Community development
- Cultural advisor
- Curator
- Journalism and media
- Policy advisor

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING (BA, BEP, BSocSc) H

Environmental Planning focuses on local, national and global urban and environmental management issues. From addressing the housing crisis to climate change, our degree provides students with practical and industry experience. It is a flexible and interdisciplinary accredited degree which provides students with choices in structuring their programme of study. This programme is professionally accredited by the New Zealand Planning Institute (NZPI) – which means when you graduate, you will be work-ready meeting professional standards, preparing you for a wide range of career options in New Zealand and overseas.

A BEP qualification at Waikato will provide you with a solid foundation in professional planning skills and brings together papers from subjects including environmental planning, Māori and Indigenous studies, and geography. With close connections to the wider Waikato region and its wealth of natural resources, our environmental planning programme proves a core foundation and a choice of specialised streams to shape your future career.

Key
- Hamilton Campus
- Tauranga Campus
- Online

*Location offerings subject to sufficient numbers

Career Options
- Environmental planner
- Iwi management planner
- Private consultant
- Resource consent planner
- Community planner
- Compliance officer

GEOGRAPHY (BA, BSocSc) H

Geography matters because it is about basic human relationships - between people and the environment, and between people and other people. We offer papers in environmental planning, and geographic information systems as well as in social and cultural geography.

A number of the papers have particular emphasis on Māori and feminist perspectives, and the social, economic and political processes that produce them.

Career Options
- Consultant
- Environmental manager
- Researcher
- Social and economic researcher
- Urban or regional planner

HISTORY (BA, BSocSc) H

Historians study the past to understand the present. History at Waikato will inspire you to understand current events in light of historical context and give you a first-rate history education. You’ll explore connections to previous generations, how they influence today, and if they were really all that different. History isn’t just what happened before, but is also an investigation into, and use of, reliable research methods.

We’ll challenge you to ask questions, use critical enquiry into historical evidence and consider new ways of looking at the past in light of that new evidence.

Career Options
- Archivist
- Documentary researcher
- Historian
- Journalist
- Museum or gallery curator

PHILOSOPHY (BA, BSocSc) H

Philosophy is for thinkers and doers. It’s about solving real-life problems, and applying intellectual rigour to how we understand and interact with others, society, and the world. Studying Philosophy at Waikato will teach you how to learn, think and write clearly, argue vigorously, and question deeply held assumptions and beliefs.

Career Options
- Consultant
- Ethicist
- Philosopher
- Policy analyst
- Risk management
- Teacher
POLITICAL SCIENCE (BA, BSocSc)

Political Science studies systems of governance and power, political thought, political communication, international relations and public policy. It is a highly flexible programme that will give you job opportunities in government departments, councils, the media, education, iwi organisations, industry, business, labour organisations and social services. Political Science at Waikato not only gives you a well-rounded perspective on political issues but also provides a versatile base of knowledge and skills to enter many fields.

Career Options
- Central and local government officer
- Foreign affairs advisor
- Security analyst
- Māori development policy advisor
- Policy analyst

POPULATION STUDIES AND DEMOGRAPHY (BA, BSocSc)

Learn about Population Studies through the National Institute for Demographic and Economic Analysis (NIDEA) at the University of Waikato and gain a solid, research-led understanding of the population issues and policies of countries in the Global North and South.

At Waikato we provide an integrated and interdisciplinary approach to population studies with our graduate programme in Population Studies and Demography. You’ll learn about advanced, empirical analysis of population structure and trends.

Population Studies and Demography is offered by the National Institute for Demographic and Economic Analysis (NIDEA), a research institute based in the School of Social Sciences. NIDEA is the only national unit in New Zealand that generates and coordinates research in population studies.

Career Options
- Community development worker
- Finance and banking
- Health sector analyst
- Planner
- Policy analyst
- Social science researcher

SOCIAL WORK (BSW)

Social Work builds on the ambition people have for making a positive difference in the lives of others, producing passionate graduates for a growing industry. Our curriculum reflects the principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility, and respect for diversities that are central to social work. Graduates of the programme have a critical understanding of how socio-structural inadequacies, discrimination, oppression and social, political and economic injustices affect human functioning and development at all levels and acquire a diverse range of skills and tools to address these challenges and enhance wellbeing. Social Work is both an academic discipline and a practice-based profession that advocates for social change, social development and social cohesion, in order to empower and liberate people and communities.

Work placements are an essential component of the BSW. In your third and fourth year of study, you’ll gain practical experience through fieldwork placements in social service agencies.
Applications for admission to the BSW Programme shall be made in the previous year by 31 October. Applicants will go through a selection process in November/December for an A trimester start. Late applications will be considered.

All applicants are subject to a selection process, including a criminal record check, provision of a personal statement and a referee check. Selection of applicants is based on academic history, suitability for social work and meeting the requirements of the University and the New Zealand Social Workers Registration Board in terms of being a fit and proper person to practise social work. Applicants may be interviewed by the BSW selection panel.

**Career Options**
- Child and family services worker
- Community or iwi development advisor
- Criminal justice services worker
- Policy development advisor
- Social worker
- Violence prevention worker

**SOCIOLOGY (BA, BSocSc)**

Sociology at Waikato moves you beyond assumptions and explores who we are and our place in the world. You’ll study human relationships and how societies form. Sociology at Waikato is highly respected and is a top 300 QS-rated subject. You’ll explore how people organise and form groups, form larger social structures, and how societies evolve over time.

As a budding sociologist, you’ll be challenged to assume little in the hopes of clearing the way for new conclusions.

**Career Options**
- Iwi development officer
- Media or social commentator
- Social analyst
- Social entrepreneur
- Social researcher

**SOCIAL POLICY (BA, BSocSc)**

Be a force for change. Study Social Policy at Waikato and develop a critical understanding of how policy-making impacts on every person, regardless of their age, ethnicity or gender – then learn how to influence it. Your Social Policy studies at Waikato will cover why and how societies respond to problems such as poverty and unemployment. You’ll take part in popular and recurring social policy debates, and gain an in-depth understanding of why social problems arise. You’ll investigate and evaluate different ways of responding to those problems.

**Career Options**
- Advocate
- Case manager
- Community worker
- Policy analyst
- Researcher
ETHICS (BA, BSocSc)  🅱️

Ethics is about how we should live and how we should evaluate lives, people, actions, policies, and more. Studying Ethics at Waikato will give you the tools and capabilities you need to become an inspirational leader in the community and in your working life, and will enable you to feel confident in your ability to work out what should be done in a wide variety of situations.

GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES (BA, BSocSc)  🅱️

Gender and Sexuality Studies, which is available as an undergraduate level minor, is an interdisciplinary subject that is concerned with all of these issues. Papers explore a wide range of topics, including media representations of gender and sexuality, medical constructions of the body, gender and development, the gendered division of paid and unpaid work, gender and public policy, gender, sexuality and technology, violence based on gender and/or sexuality, and difference and ethnicity.
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (BA, BSocSc) H

The Geographic Information Systems minor provides one of the major contact points between emerging computer technology and applied geographic skills. GIS involves the use of mapping skills, the use of information with a locational reference, and skills in geographical analysis and interpretation.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND SECURITY STUDIES (BA, BSocSc) H

Studying International Relations and Security Studies at Waikato will equip you to make a difference in New Zealand and beyond. It focuses on the study of politics and security issues at a global level, and covers topics including international security, law and trade, and regions of concern (notably, the Middle-East and South-East Asia). A qualification in international relations will provide job opportunities in policy analysis and equip you for work in government departments that deal with foreign affairs and trade, and can lead to careers in diplomacy or work in international NGOs.

PUBLIC POLICY (BA, BSocSc) H

At Waikato, Public Policy is an interdisciplinary subject. That means you can combine it with programmes from a variety of other disciplines, creating a programme of study that will equip you for work in local and central government, advocacy groups, NGOs, iwi organisations, and the media. The minor in Public Policy offers both structure and flexibility – there's a compulsory paper at each level of study, but you'll also have the freedom to focus on the particular policy areas that most interest you. Choose from papers on economic, educational, environmental, ethnic, foreign, population and social policy.
Degree structures (also known as degree planners) show you the papers you need to complete for a particular degree (e.g. BA) and major subject (e.g. English). Most degree structures include specific papers that you have to complete, and papers that give you a choice.

**SINGLE MAJOR**

Each box represents a paper. Each paper is worth a set number of points – normally 15 points per paper.

If you are studying full time, you will usually take four papers in Trimester A and four papers in Trimester B.

The number of points a student will achieve if they pass all of their papers each year. A typical full-time workload is 120 points a year.

To graduate with a major in a subject, you need to have completed a certain number of points in that subject at various levels, i.e. at 100-, 200- and 300-level for a three-year degree.

**A major or stream is the main subject of your degree.**

**Elective papers**

You may have room in your degree to take papers that aren’t part of your major or compulsory for your degree. These are called elective papers. Electives can be from almost any subject offered by the University.

**Minor (optional)**

Minors can be taken by completing four papers in the same field of study in place of elective papers. Degrees without electives may not have the option of completing a minor.

**Compulsory papers**

All of these papers must be taken as part of your degree.
To view example Degree planners visit the following links.

BACHELOR OF ARTS
waikato.ac.nz/go/BA

BACHELOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
waikato.ac.nz/go/BEP

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
waikato.ac.nz/go/BSocSc

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK
waikato.ac.nz/go/BSW

CONTACT US:

Any questions? Reach out to us at:

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alpss@waikato.ac.nz

For more information or entry requirements scan the qr code or visit waikato.ac.nz.