The study and practice of law is exciting, challenging and extremely rewarding.

Te Piringa translates as the coming together of peoples and cultures, and was gifted to us by the late Te Arikinui, Dame Te Atairangikaahu, the Māori Queen.

The Piringa Faculty of Law is founded on the core principles of professionalism, biculturalism, and the study of law in context. These founding principles continue to be deeply embedded throughout all our Law programmes, and equip our graduates with a unique and powerful set of skills and strengths. Our students are given the very best grounding in the law, along with a deep understanding of professionalism, biculturalism, and a study of how the law operates in the wider context.

Our principled approach to teaching Law at Waikato ensures that our graduates are prepared to practice law or pursue other professional careers in a way that meets the diverse demands of peoples across New Zealand and abroad.

Studying Law at Waikato ensures that students are firmly grounded in the core legal subjects (together with company law, dispute resolution, and tikanga Māori) that provide the building blocks for thinking like a lawyer.

In the final year students choose from a selection of Elective papers focused on other areas of key legal practice, or our specialised research strengths in the areas of Māori and Indigenous Governance, the Environment, Public Law and Policy, and the Law of New Technologies that underpin our teaching of law in context.

Students who excel academically in their second and third year will be invited to join our Honours programme where they can push their learning even further.
OUR FACILITIES

Our state-of-the-art moot court enables students to fine-tune their practical skills in a real court setting. Students also have access to 24-hour computer labs and the law library.

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?

• We were the 1st LLB in New Zealand committed to teaching Tikanga Māori
• You can start your legal study journey in Tauranga through our Diploma programme
• You can take our Jump Start paper to build legal fundamentals over summer
• We are the only New Zealand law school with an on-site moot court facility
• Our founding principle of professionalism means our graduates are work-ready
• Study advising support is provided to all first year students
OUR UNDERGRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS

BACHELOR OF LAWS – LLB

Our four-year Bachelor of Laws degree qualifies students to practice as New Zealand Lawyers. Our LLB will give you the practical skills and theoretical knowledge base you need to succeed in a challenging and rewarding field that defines society’s rights, obligations and structures.

A law degree gives you the sound knowledge base and critical thinking skills that will enable you to become involved in a range of fields outside of practicing explicitly as a lawyer, including business, government, police, forensics, military and many more.

Our Bachelor of Laws is structured to allow you to undertake practical skills training from the beginning. You’ll learn to think like a lawyer – identifying issues and building legal cases to support your arguments in mooting, client interviewing, negotiation and other exercises and competitions. You’ll develop dispute resolution and mediation skills through the wide range of papers on offer.

The principles of tikanga and the fundamentals of Treaty law are also integrated into the curriculum at each level of the degree.

As a Waikato LLB graduate, you’ll also attain Associate status of the Arbitrators’ and Mediators’ Institute of New Zealand (AMINZ).
Entry requirements

To enrol in the LLB, you need to have gained University Entrance with at least 18 credits in one literacy-rich subject, and at least 14 credits in another two literacy-rich subjects, or gain NCEA Level 3 with Merit or Excellence, or equivalent.

The Admissions Committee consider all applications on a case-by-case basis. You need to support your application with a personal statement that outlines your academic achievements, work experience, and school and community involvement. Your personal statement should be up to 300 words.

If you don’t meet the entry requirements for the LLB, contact info@waikato.ac.nz as there are other pathways you can take to study law.

DIPLOMA IN LAW

Enhance your present career or explore opportunities for a new career direction with the Diploma in Law programme. Our Diploma in Law provides a way for students to study Law in a staged way to graduate with our Diploma or transfer to our degree programmes in Law.

We are dedicated to supporting our students to develop skills that will help advance their careers.

Completing the Diploma in Law programme will assist you to:

• Develop critical awareness of the cultural, national and global context of law. Students learn the law and understand its implications.
• Develop ‘transferable’ skills, such as analytical, research, problem-solving and legal interpretation skills.
• Understand the language of law, the regulatory frameworks and how policy is made. Learn to create legal documents and construct legal arguments and opinions.
• Develop your capacity to manage your own learning with our expert guidance provided through practical workshops and tutorials. Our online library, which holds statutes, case law, books, serials and online databases, provides a resource-rich learning environment for developing your legal research skills.

Programme Delivery

The programme is offered through a combination of recorded lectures and face-to-face tutorials.

Lectures offered on the Hamilton campus are recorded in real time and made available online shortly after. The video recordings of these lectures can be viewed online by Diploma of Law students at their convenience. Tutorials and/or workshops are held in Hamilton and Tauranga. Tauranga tutorials and workshops are scheduled in the evenings at 6pm. Attendance at tutorials and workshops is compulsory. Students need to purchase course reading materials (and cases, articles, etc), and will have access to a range of Web-based legal research databases.

Pathway into the Bachelor of Laws degree

Students who successfully complete the Diploma in Law are invited to apply for entry into the Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree. The LLB degree is only offered at the Hamilton campus. If students pass and complete their Diploma in Law papers they will have guaranteed entry into the LLB degree. All the Diploma in Law papers will be transferred to the first and second years of the LLB programme at Waikato.
Entry requirements & process

All applications for the Diploma in Law will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Faculty of Law Admissions Committee, giving consideration to an applicant’s academic preparedness to undertake this programme of study.

With your application please provide:

• A written statement (letter of application) of up to 200 words outlining your work experience (paid or unpaid) and/or community involvement, your previous study and reasons for wishing to undertake the diploma programme,

• Verified copies of academic records (transcripts) of any previous studies,

• A verified copy of your birth certificate or current passport.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LAW

If you’re fascinated by the history and creative activities of humankind and how this shapes societies and our future, then a three-year Bachelor of Arts (BA) is for you. Our graduates are in demand for their flexible skills, practical outlook and depth of understanding they bring to their roles.

Studying law is empowering as it affects every aspect of our life. Study Law at the University of Waikato - one of New Zealand / Aotearoa’s leading law schools - and you’ll be looking into why laws are made, who makes them, how they work and how to change them.

Everyone, not just lawyers, needs to know the law.

The BA in Law is a non-practising law based qualification, ideal for those that want to develop knowledge of the law and its implications and a sense of justice and public responsibility. Studying law within your BA develops the ability to argue from a basis of evidence, hone your research skills, and develop well rounded critical analysis abilities - all skills that can be transferred to many careers.
**DEGREE STRUCTURE**

**BACHELOR OF LAWS**

waikato.ac.nz/go/LLB

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Compulsory</th>
<th>Elective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y1</td>
<td>LEGAL103 Legal Method A</td>
<td>LEGAL104 Legal Method B</td>
<td>LEGAL 106 Legal Systems and Societies (30 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y2</td>
<td>LEGAL201 Public Law (30 points)</td>
<td>LEGAL203 Jurisprudence</td>
<td>LEGAL204 Contracts (30 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>LEGAL301 Crimes (30 points)</td>
<td>LEGAL305 Corporate Entities</td>
<td>LEGAL306 Dispute Resolution</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These papers must be in subjects outside the Faculty of Law (Non-Law Elective). In your first year you must complete 30 points in the same subject outside the Faculty of Law.

Please note to satisfy requirements of the New Zealand Council of Legal Education, students wishing to proceed to a profession program and admission as a barrister or solicitor must complete LEGAL436 Legal Ethics.

Students interested in pursuing a second major under their LLB will need to approach a Law Student Advisor for degree planning advice. They may be contacted via study.law@waikato.ac.nz

---

**CONTACT US:**

Any questions? Reach out to us at:

- waikato.ac.nz/law
- 0800 WAIKATO (0800 924 528) or 07 838 4080
- law.reception@waikato.ac.nz

For more information or entry requirements scan the qr code or visit [waikato.ac.nz](http://waikato.ac.nz).