SOCIAL WORK IN TAURANGA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato
The Social Work programme currently offers a four-year Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree at the Tauranga campus.

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. The BSW is recognised by the New Zealand Social Workers Registration Board (SWRB).

The programme strives to offer bi-cultural education that is grounded on the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Our curriculum is founded on the principles of social justice, human rights, collective responsibility, and respect for diversities that are central to social work. The BSW will help you gain practical skills to work with individuals, families, whānau, hapū and iwi.

Throughout your social work studies, you will gain new knowledge to help you thrive as a social worker. Graduates of the programme will have a critical understanding of socio-structural inadequacies, discrimination, oppression and social, political and economic injustices.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applications for admission to the Bachelor of Social Work Programme will 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 may be considered.

The selection process includes: a criminal record check, provision of a personal statement and a referee check. Individual interviews may be required. Selection of applicants is based on academic history, suitability for social work and meeting the requirements of the University and the SWRB in terms of being a fit and proper person to practice social work.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Child and family services worker
- Community corrections worker
- Community or iwi development adviser
- Disability services adviser
- Kaupapa Māori service worker
- Policy adviser or analyst
- Social worker
- Youth worker
Khey-Jhyn Martin (Ngā Rauru)
Social worker, Tautoko Mai -
Sexual Harm Support, Tauranga

It’s hard mahi and a long degree but it needs to be. The social work programme prepares students really well for placement.

You have to have a passion for people, you need to be resilient and persevere because you’re dealing with confronting and often negative issues. Once you get through that, there’s so much beauty at the end of it.

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK (BSW) DEGREE STRUCTURE*

Y1
- SOCWK101 Introduction to the Social Work Profession
- SOCWK102 Introduction to Social Work Theory
- SOCPY100 Introduction to Social Policy
- MAORI150 Te Tiriti o Waitangi: Intro to the Treaty of Waitangi
- HMDEV100 Lifespan Development
- SOCIO101 Introduction to Sociology
- PSYCH101 Social Psychology, Health and Wellbeing
- PHILO103 Critical Thinking

Y2
- SOCWK205 Community Development
- SOCWK201 Working with Violence in Human Services
- SOCWK202 Social Work Approaches and Fields of Practice (30 Points)
- SOCPY200 Social Policy and Social Issues
- SOCPY201 Social Policy, Families and Children
- MAORI222 He Ao Hurihuri He Ao Tuakiri: Evolving Maori Culture / Identity
- SOCWK302 Bicultural and Multicultural Social Work Practice

Y3
- SOCWK300 Social Work Placement 1 (45 Points)
- SSRES200 Social Science Research Methods
- SOCWK303 Children and Young People at Risk
- SOCWK306 Social Work Professional Skills
- HMDEV340 Perspectives on Counselling
- Any 200 level paper from the subjects listed

Y4
- SOCWK400 Social Work Placement 2 (45 Points)
- SOCWK401 Social Work Decision Making (30 points)
- SOCWK403 Social Justice, Ethics and Law (30 points)
- Any 300 level paper from the subjects listed

*Please note: The BSW degree structure is being reviewed and papers for 2022 may differ.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

Work placements are an essential component of the BSW. In your third and fourth years of study, you’ll gain practical experience through fieldwork placements in social service agencies.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, visit

waikato.ac.nz/go/bsw

socialwork@waikato.ac.nz