

# BACHELOR OF LAWS



Law is about relationships and our connections to each other. Our society, culture, and economy, our family ties, and our international allegiances all exist within a legal framework.

The Bachelor of Laws (LLB) is a four-year undergraduate degree. Most students combine the LLB with another degree, and this will take a minimum of five years' study. As a graduate, you will contribute to every aspect of life in New Zealand, whether practising as a lawyer or working in business, the community, or government. You will be equipped to both uphold and challenge the principles that govern our daily lives.

The University's Faculty of Law is housed in the historic Government Buildings. Its downtown location is in the hub of New Zealand lawmaking, opposite Parliament and close to the courts, research libraries, and the central business district. This unique environment attracts top academics and students from around the world.

Our Law students are active debaters and do well in international mootings and debating competitions. We teach Law by the Socratic method, in which you will be questioned on your set readings during lectures. This is ideal preparation for a career in law. Ranked first in New Zealand for the quality of our research, and in the world's top 40 universities for law (QS World University Rankings by subject, 2018), the University's Law School offers an education that will secure your future.

## FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS DEGREE

 [www.victoria.ac.nz/llb](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/llb)

## POTENTIAL CAREERS

A Law degree can lead to a range of careers. As a graduate, you'll be able to work in legal practice (in New Zealand and around the world), specialising in many areas, including commercial law, criminal law, family law, international law, litigation, and mediation.

There are opportunities in business, the community, the creative arts, government (including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Crown Law Office, the Department of Conservation and the Defence Force), and in universities as lecturers.


To be eligible for admission to the legal profession in New Zealand (to practise law), Law graduates must complete a practical professional legal studies course, often called 'profs'. Two organisations offer this training in New Zealand. The Faculty of Law can advise you about this requirement.


 [www.victoria.ac.nz/careers](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/careers)


## FACULTY OF LAW

Te Kauhanganui Tātai Ture

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 04 463 6433

 [law-enquiries@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:law-enquiries@vuw.ac.nz)

 [www.victoria.ac.nz/law](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/law)

## POSTGRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates with an LLB often combine work with part-time study in a Master of Laws to specialise in a subject area of law. Also offered is a Graduate Certificate in Law, a flexible programme that can be undertaken for professional development purposes.

[www.victoria.ac.nz/law/postgraduate](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/law/postgraduate)

## RECOMMENDED SCHOOL SUBJECTS

You should study subjects that you enjoy. These may be essay-based subjects or those that encourage analytical thinking such as languages, Art History, Classics, Economics, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Music, and Physics.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Four years of full-time study (although commonly studied over five or more years alongside another degree).

A total of 480 points is required:

- at least 90 points must be from non-Law courses chosen from any other first degree at the University
- three core courses at 100 level (usually in the first year): LAWS 121, LAWS 122, LAWS 123
- five core courses at 200 level: LAWS 211, LAWS 212, LAWS 213, LAWS 214, LAWS 297
- two core courses at 300 level: LAWS 301, LAWS 312
- 11 further LAWS courses at 300 level, including LAWS 334 Legal Ethics if you wish to apply for admission to the Bar.

## DEGREE EXAMPLES

Conjoint LLB/BA, with a major in English Literature and a minor in International Relations

Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4			Year 5	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	3/3	1/3	2/3
LAWS 121 20 points	LAWS 122 15 points	LAWS 211 30 points		LAWS 213 30 points		LAWS 301 30 points		LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 312 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
ENGL 100 20 points	LAWS 123 15 points	LAWS 212 30 points		LAWS 214 30 points		LAWS 312 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
INTP 113 20 points	ENGL 100 20 points	LAWS 297 10 points		ENGL 200 level 20 points	ENGL 200 level 20 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points		ENGL 300 level 20 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
	POLS 100 level 20 points	ENGL 200 level 20 points	INTP 200 level 20 points	INTP 200 level 20 points	INTP 300 level 20 points	ENGL 300-329 20 points	ENGL 300 level 20 points		BA course any level 20 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
60 points	70 points	55 points	55 points	70 points	70 points	65 points	65 points	30 points	70 points	60 points
130 points		110 points		140 points		160 points			130 points	

### Key

Core	Major	Minor	Elective
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Total points required: 660  
Total points completed: 670

## Selection into second year

Selection into second-year Law is based on academic performance in the three 100-level LAWS courses. A B average over the three first-year LAWS courses is generally required.

Check the website for detailed selection criteria into second-year Law for first-year students, transferring students, or graduates, or if you require details on the Māori admissions process.

[www.victoria.ac.nz/law-selection-criteria](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/law-selection-criteria)

## Selection into Honours

Each year, the top students who have completed at least four of the five 200-level courses may be invited to join the Honours programme. Although it shares many components with the LLB, the Bachelor of Laws with Honours (LLB(Hons)) is a separate undergraduate degree that will extend your research, writing, and analytical skills in a range of specialist areas.

You should read the current *Undergraduate Law Prospectus* for further advice on how to plan your degree. Obtain a copy from the Law School Office, Room G31, Government Buildings, or view it at [www.victoria.ac.nz/law-prospectus](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/law-prospectus)

## First year

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 university admission criteria. A pass in LAWS 121 is a prerequisite for both LAWS 122 and LAWS 123.

Most first-year Law students begin another degree in their first year alongside their LLB. This means their non-Law points (see below and the next page) should be made up of courses required for the other degree. Use the relevant degree pages in this guide to find out what you need to include in your first-year programme. Details of particular courses and when they are taught are on the subjects and courses pages (from page 125).

## Conjoint LLB/BCom, with a major in Economics and a minor in Finance

Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3
LAWS 121 20 points	LAWS 122 15 points	LAWS 211 30 points		LAWS 213 30 points		LAWS 301 30 points		LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
ECON 130 15 points	LAWS 123 15 points	LAWS 212 30 points		LAWS 214 30 points		LAWS 312 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
FCOM 111 15 points	ECON 141 15 points	LAWS 297 10 points		ECON 300 level 15 points	ECON 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
QUAN 102 15 points	QUAN 111 15 points	ECON 201 15 points	ECON 202 15 points	FINA 201 15 points	FINA 200 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	ECON 300 level 15 points	FINA 300 level 15 points
		MGMT 101 15 points	ACCY 130 15 points	MARK 101 15 points		FINA 300 level 15 points	INFO 101 15 points		
65 points	60 points	65 points	65 points	75 points	60 points	75 points	75 points	60 points	60 points
125 points		130 points		135 points		150 points		120 points	

Total points required: 660  
Total points completed: 660

### Key

LLB course	Major	Minor	Commerce core
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### LLB only

Minimum points required: 480, of which 390 must be LAWS courses

Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3
LAWS 121 20 points	LAWS 122 15 points	LAWS 297 10 points		LAWS 213 30 points		LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
Elective	LAWS 123 15 points	LAWS 211 30 points		LAWS 301 30 points		LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
Elective	Elective	LAWS 212 30 points		LAWS 312 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
	Elective	LAWS 214 30 points		LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points	LAWS 300 level 15 points
			Elective				
130 points		120 points		120 points		120 points	

Elective courses can be any subject. Students must complete 90 points of electives (five or six electives to make 90 points).

### Key

Law course	Elective
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# JULIET MARSH

Student, Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts in Criminology

“During my studies, I’ve had the opportunity to take part in the Community Justice Project. It’s a great way to see how law can really help people. I’ve also been involved in the VUW Feminist Law Society at the University, various climate justice groups, and the Howard League. Clubs are a great way to meet like-minded people and work towards a common goal.”

