



Bachelor of **Politics***

Take a close look at political issues from interdisciplinary perspectives with the Tohu Paetahi Tōrangapū—Bachelor of Politics (BPols).

What better location is there to learn about the political world than in the heart of the capital city—the home turf of change-makers and policymakers alike?

This degree gives you a solid foundation in political science and international relations, with the ability to choose from one of six majors and 11 minor subjects to build a programme that suits your specialist interests.

Learn about international security, find out how and why political systems differ across the globe, study key thinkers and movements from across the ideological spectrum, or take a deep dive into New Zealand's political institutions, actors, and processes.

Graduates of this unique degree will be prepared to make meaningful contributions to political discourse and decision-making in Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond. If you want to lead and innovate to address complex political challenges, this degree can help you get there.

*Subject to regulatory approval.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Bachelor of Politics graduates will be prepared for careers in government, public service, non-governmental organisations, international relations, political consulting, policy analysis, and political activism.

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POSTGRADUATE STUDY

The degree will help prepare you for further study in a range of fields related to political and international studies. It offers pathways to a wide array of taught Master's programmes, both at Te Herenga Waka and other universities nationally and internationally.

SCHOOL SUBJECTS

Any BPols major can be started from an introductory level in the first year.



FIND OUT MORE

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MAJORS

- ▶ International Relations
- ▶ Political Communication
- ▶ Political Science
- ▶ Politics of Aotearoa New Zealand
- ▶ Politics, Philosophy, and Economics
- ▶ Public Policy

MINORS

- ▶ Asian Politics
- ▶ Civic Engagement
- ▶ Environmental Politics
- ▶ Human Rights, Justice, and Peace
- ▶ International Political Economy
- ▶ Māori Politics
- ▶ Pacific Politics
- ▶ Politics of Migration
- ▶ Science and Politics

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Three years of full-time study.

A total of 360 points is required:

- ▶ at least 180 points must be from courses numbered 200–399
- ▶ at least 75 points must be from courses numbered 300–399.

You must include the following core courses:

- ▶ POLI 101
- ▶ 20 points from INTP 100–199
- ▶ 20 points from POLS 100–199
- ▶ MAOR 126.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

You must satisfy the requirements for at least one major subject.

International Relations (INTP)

- INTP 113 and 20 points from INTP 115, POLS 100–199.
- 40 points from INTP 200–299.
- 20 points from INTP 300–399.
- 20 further points from HIST 321, HIST 336, INTP 300–399, POLS 300–399.
- 20 further points from HIST 249, HIST 321, HIST 326, INTP 200–399, PHIL 264, POLS 200–399.

For a specialisation in International Security (ISEC), students must include the following courses:

- ▶ INTP 115
- ▶ two courses from INTP 243, INTP 244, INTP 245, INTP 248
- ▶ at least one course from INTP 363, INTP 371, INTP 379.

Political Communication (PCOM)

- COMS 101, 40 points from INTP 101–199, POLS 101–199.
- COMS 201, 40 points from PCOM 200–299.
- 40 points from MDIA 303, PCOM 300–399.

Political Science (POLS)

- 40 points from POLS 100–199.
- 40 points from POLS 200–299.
- 20 points from POLS 300–399.
- 20 further points from HIST 336, INTP 300–399, MAOR 316, PHIL 303, POLS 300–399, PUBL 304.
- 20 further points from HIST 249, HIST 336, INTP 200–399, MAOR 216, MAOR 316, PHIL 264, PHIL 303, POLS 200–399, PUBL 304.

For a specialisation in Comparative Politics (CPOL), students must include POLS 114 and three courses from the following, including at least one course at 200 level and one at 300 level: POLS 203, POLS 205, POLS 209, POLS 210, POLS 231, POLS 232, POLS 352, POLS 354, POLS 357.

For a specialisation in Political Ideas (POID), students must include the following courses: POLS 112, and three courses from INTP 261, INTP 303, PHIL 264, PHIL 303, POLS 214, POLS 362, including at least one 200-level course and one 300-level course.

Politics of Aotearoa New Zealand (ANZP)

- MAOR 126, POLS 111.
- 40 points from HIST 204, HIST 249, HIST 209, INTP 244, LSCI 210, MAOR 216, POLS 206, POLS 218, PUBL 201, including at least 20 points from INTP, MAOR, POLS, or PUBL.
- 40 points from HIST 312, MAOR 316, POLS 353, PUBL 304.

Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (PHPE)

- ECON 130, PHIL 106, one of (POLS 112 or POLS 114), QUAN 111.
- ECON 201.
- 20 points from INTP or POLS 200–299.
- 20 points from PHIL 200–299.
- 20 points from INTP or POLS 300–399.
- 20 points from PHIL 300–399.
- 15 points from ECON 314, ECON 328, ECON 330, ECON 340, ECON 361.

Public Policy (PUBL)

- POLS 111 or PUBL 113 (recommended).
- PUBL 201, PUBL 210; 15 further points from PUBL 200–299.
- 40 points from PUBL 300–399.
- at least 15 further points from PUBL 200–399.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

You must satisfy the requirements for at least one minor subject.

Asian Politics (ASPO)

Complete 40 points from INTP 243, INTP 354, POLS 203, POLS 208, POLS 306, and 20 further points from ASIA 201, ASIA 203, ASIA 301, ASIA 304. At least one of the included courses must be at 300 level.

Civic Engagement (CIVE)

Complete one of FHSS 302 or POLS 353, and 40 points from ANTH 302, GEOG 314, HIST 204, PCOM 306, POLS 206, POLS 307, SOSC 317.

Environmental Politics (ENPO)

Complete 60 points including at least 15 points at 300 level from ANTH 210, ARTH 201, CRIM 304, ECON 201, ECON 340, EHUM 201, EHUM 301, GEOG 214, GEOG 314, HIST 219, INTP 302, PUBL 307, SCIS 315.

Human Rights, Justice and Peace (HRJP)

Complete at least 60 points (including 15 points at 300 level) from ANTH 208, ANTH 209, ANTH 302, ENGL 330, GEOG 312, GEOG 314, HIST 216, HIST 302, HIST 332, HWLB 208, ICOM 202, ICOM 302, INTP 204, INTP 303, INTP 363, MAOR 216, MDIA 204, PHIL 303, POLS 209, RELI 232, SACS 202, SOSC 223, SPOL 210.

International Political Economy (IPEC)

Complete INTP 247 and 40 points from ECON 342, GEOG 212, GEOG 316, IBUS 201, IBUS 303, INTP 302, POLS 384, including at least 15 points from any of the 300-level courses listed.

Māori Politics (MAPO)

Complete MAOR 216, MAOR 316, and 20 further points from (HIST 203, HIST 204, HIST 312), MDIA 308, POLS 206.

Pacific Politics (PAPO)

Complete POLS 354; 20 points from ANTH 308, ARTH 305, GEOG 322, HIST 219, HIST 235, HIST 336; 20 points from PASI 201, PASI 202, PASI 301, PASI 303.

Politics of Aotearoa New Zealand (ANZP)

Complete 20 points from (INTP 244, POLS 206, POLS 218, PUBL 201, PUBL 304); 20 points from HIST 204, HIST 209, HIST 249, HIST 312; 20 points from MAOR 216, MAOR 316. At least one of the included courses must be at 300 level.

Politics of Migration (POLM)

Complete INTP 305 or POLS 352, and 40 points from ANTH 317, GEOG 322, PASI 201, PASI 202, PASI 303.

Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (PHPE)

Complete one course at 300 level, one course from INTP or POLS 200–399, one course from ECON 201, ECON 314, ECON 328, ECON 330, ECON 340, ECON 361, one course from PHIL 200–399, and one further course from any of the courses listed for the minor. At least one of the included courses must be at 300 level.

Science and Politics (SCPO)

Complete 20 points from HIST 301, PHIL 201, PHIL 209, PHIL 325, and 45 points from GEOG 214, GEOG 314, SCIS 211–213, SCIS 311–313, SCIS 315, SCIS 317. At least one of the included courses must be at 300 level.

DEGREE EXAMPLES

BPols majoring in Political Communication, with a minor in Civic Engagement

YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3
POLI 101 20 points	MAOR 126 20 points	PCOM 201 20 points	COMS 201 20 points	PCOM 302 20 points	PCOM 306 20 points
INTP 113 20 points	INTP 115 20 points	ELECTIVE 20 points	PCOM 202 20 points	MDIA 303 20 points	ELECTIVE 20 points
COMS 101 20 points	POLS 114 20 points	ELECTIVE 20 points	POLS 206 20 points	POLS 353 20 points	ELECTIVE 20 points
60 POINTS	60 POINTS	60 POINTS	60 POINTS	60 POINTS	60 POINTS
120 POINTS		120 POINTS		120 POINTS	

Total points required: 360
Total points completed: 360

KEY: CORE MAJOR MINOR ELECTIVE

BPols majoring in Political Science, with a minor in Māori Politics

YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3	
1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3	1/3	2/3
POLI 101 20 points	MAOR 126 20 points	POLS 205 20 points	PHIL 264 20 points	POLS 353 20 points	PUBL 304 20 points
INTP 113 20 points	POLS 114 20 points	ELECTIVE 20 points	POLS 209 20 points	MDIA 308 20 points	MAOR 316 20 points
POLS 111 20 points	ELECTIVE 20 points	ELECTIVE 20 points	MAOR 216 20 points	ELECTIVE 20 points	ELECTIVE 20 points
60 POINTS	60 POINTS	60 POINTS	60 POINTS	60 POINTS	60 POINTS
120 POINTS		120 POINTS		120 POINTS	

Total points required: 360
Total points completed: 360

KEY: CORE MAJOR MINOR ELECTIVE



“For me, the most valuable part of my degree is being in the capital. The opportunity for lecturers to bring in politicians, ambassadors, and public servants—and to engage with them outside of class through the University’s strong political community and extracurriculars—has been wonderful. It lets me see politics not just in theory, but in action, in real time.”

Zinzan
Student, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Relations
Student, Bachelor of Laws