Our globalised world challenges people, communities, and countries to better understand cross-cultural issues and embrace diversity.

- Learn from internationally connected lecturers who are active researchers and experts in their fields.
- Take advantage of our strong networks and opportunities to work on large-scale international projects.
- Have the opportunity to take part in a student exchange programme to the University of Hawai‘i.
- Graduate with the skills and knowledge to work for government departments, NGOs, voluntary organisations, and international development agencies.

Our Master of Science in Cross-cultural Psychology is the only qualification of its kind in the English-speaking world. This two-year degree will equip you with the skills and knowledge to make a real difference to cross-cultural understanding and solving complex social issues.

Develop the skills you need to critically assess and engage in research and learn the importance of understanding human behaviour from both culture-specific and culture-general perspectives.

You’ll be part of the Centre for Applied Cross-cultural Research, which carries out research and provides training, education, consultancy, and policy advice in cross-cultural areas including voluntary organisations and government. You’ll gain experience outside the classroom with opportunities such as conducting research projects for clients or helping run inter-cultural training sessions.

CAREERS
Graduates have gone into government roles as researchers and policy analysts or have found employment in community development projects, refugee camps, or universities all over the world. This programme can also lead to a PhD.

WHO CAN APPLY
This programme is suited to students with an undergraduate degree in Psychology or equivalent with at least a B+ average in their final year.
**PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**

The Master of Science in Cross-cultural Psychology combines coursework with a research thesis.

**CPSY 580 Research Preparation** (30 points): This course provides preparation for thesis research in Cross-cultural Psychology.

**PSYC 461 Advanced Research Statistics in Psychology: Structural Equation Modelling** (15 points): This course consolidates and extends knowledge and skills in research methodology and statistics, focusing on multivariate statistical methods (e.g. structural equation modelling).

**PSYC 434 Conducting Research Across Cultures** (15 points): This course focuses on theoretical and practical challenges for conducting research involving individuals from more than one cultural background or ethnicity.

**CPSY 591 Thesis** (120 points): A focused research thesis in cross-cultural psychology (includes cultural and indigenous psychology).

Two further courses from:

**PSYC 431 Culture and Human Development** (15 points): This course examines how cultural values, beliefs, and behaviour are transmitted through family systems and across age groups.

**PSYC 462 Cultures in Contact: Acculturation and Intercultural Relations** (15 points): The course applies psychological theory and research to the study of acculturation (changes arising from intercultural contact) and intercultural relations.

**PSYC 463 Indigenous Psychology** (15 points): This discussion-based course focuses on psychological theory and research relating to indigenous communities in New Zealand and other countries.

Further courses worth 30 points from PSYC 401–448 or, with permission of the programme director, from other courses within the University.

**Contact details**

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**JESS WILLIAMSON**  
Analyst in the public sector

“I have always had a desire to aid how immigrants and refugees settle in New Zealand and make our beautiful country what it is. My thesis focused on quantitative and qualitative analysis of sociocultural adaptation and culture shock. I am really interested in what helps or hinders people who try to settle into a completely different culture.

“I worked with the Centre for Applied Cross-cultural Research, where I met numerous prestigious academics and people working on all sorts of interesting research projects. I also had the opportunity to go on exchange to the University of Hawai’i.

“My current role is everything I could have wanted when I came out of the Master’s degree. I am in a data and research team and work with migration data. I honestly feel that, without the MSc in Cross-cultural psychology, I would not have been lucky enough to land this role.”