STUDY ABROAD AND EXCHANGE

2024 FACT SHEET

We welcome students from all over the world on study abroad and exchange programmes for one or two trimesters of study.

NOMINATION AND APPLICATION DEADLINES

Trimester A (March - June)
- Nomination deadline: 1 November
- Application deadline: 1 December

Trimester B (July - November)
- Nomination deadline: 1 April
- Application deadline: 1 May

NOMINATION PROCESS

To nominate a student, advisors will need to email studyabroad@waikato.ac.nz with the following information:
- Student name
- Student email address
- The trimester/s they plan to study at Waikato
- Area of study (degree or major)

Next steps and the application process will be outlined to nominated students, by the Waikato International Office, shortly after their nomination is received.

IMPORTANT DATES

A trimester 2024
- Move in: 16 - 18 February
- Orientation: 19 - 25 February
- Classes begin: 26 February
- Trimester break: 15 - 28 April
- Classes end: 31 May
- Final exams: 10 - 21 June

B trimester 2024
- Move in: 28 - 30 June
- Orientation: 1 - 5 July
- Classes begin: 8 July
- Trimester break: 19 - 30 August
- Classes end: 11 October
- Final exams: 21 October - 1 November

TRIMESTER STRUCTURE

The University operates with a trimester based academic year. A Trimester runs from March to June, B Trimester runs from July to November and C Trimester runs from November to February. The core academic year is A and B Trimesters.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All study abroad and exchange students must complete the Online Application Form and will also need to submit:
- Original copies of academic transcripts from previous tertiary study
- Evidence of English language proficiency (if applicable)
- Copy of passport

Visit waikato.ac.nz/international/study-abroad-and-exchange/apply-now for the full application process.

KEY CONTACTS

International Office
Inbound students, queries, and nominations: studyabroad@waikato.ac.nz
Outbound students, queries, and exchange balances: globalexperiences@waikato.ac.nz

International Student Services Office
Arrival, orientation, and pastoral care: internationalsupport@waikato.ac.nz

Admissions Office
Admissions, enrolment, and paper selection: info@waikato.ac.nz

Accommodation
Contact: int.accom@waikato.ac.nz
Tel: +64 7 838 4084

Visit the Study Abroad page at the University of Waikato website for more information: waikato.ac.nz/international/study-abroad-and-exchange
ACADEMIC AND ENROLMENT REQUIREMENTS

Waikato uses the term ‘paper’ to refer to a course, and courses have different points values (typically 15 points each paper). When students apply, they are requested to review the list of available papers and complete the Paper Selection aspect of the online application to enrol. After consideration, the student will be provided a list of pre-approved papers. The pre-approval process allows students to easily register upon arrival. Enrolment is completed during Orientation week.

Study abroad and exchange students are eligible to study a maximum of 60 points each trimester. In practice, a typical full-time workload equates to four undergraduate papers worth 15 points each. In order to be considered full-time for student visa purposes, students must enrol in at least 45 points each trimester.

60 Waikato points typically equates to 12-16 credits at a US institution, depending on their course structure, or 30 ECTS in the European model.

STUDENT VISA

Before coming to New Zealand, study abroad and exchange students need to obtain a student visa from Immigration New Zealand. In order for students to apply for their visa, they need an ‘Offer of Place’, issued by Waikato. Students need to apply to enrol at Waikato, and once they are accepted, an ‘Offer of Place’ letter will be issued.

COMPULSORY MEDICAL AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

All new international students are required to purchase an approved insurance policy in order to be enrolled at Waikato. Students are automatically enrolled in the University’s insurance policy, Studentsafe, at time of enrolment. If your institution has a compulsory policy for outbound students, this can be assessed against our approved alternative policies to see if it can be used in place of Studentsafe. Exemptions outside of our approved alternative policies are rare, as the policy is quite strict on its requirements.

ACCOMMODATION AND ARRIVAL

The Accommodation Office offers a variety of housing options: fully-catered residence halls, self-catered flats, and homestays, as well as information about off-campus accommodation.

Campus housing is guaranteed for study abroad and exchange students if the accommodation application is submitted on time.

Application open and due dates:

A trimester
- Opens: 1 August 2023
- Due: 1 December 2023

B trimester
- Opens: 1 April 2024
- Due: 1 May 2024

Students are strongly encouraged to apply early to secure their preferred housing option. Self-catered flats are in the highest demand and not always available.

All students must liaise with and inform the International Student Services team their travel plans, including arrival information.

STUDENT ORIENTATION

In the week prior to classes starting, there is a full schedule of orientation events and information sessions that students can attend. In addition to these events, study abroad and exchange students have two compulsory orientation events that provide essential information on enrolment, workload, change of enrolment/withdrawal deadlines, and student support.

STUDENT SUPPORT AND SERVICES

The International Student Services Office has a team of student advisors who act as a point of first-contact for students while they’re living and studying at Waikato. The International Student Services Office is there to listen to our students, and works closely with other student support groups to ensure our international students are supported and cared for while they’re studying with us. Below is a list of some key services we provide to our students.

Advice and support
waikato.ac.nz/student-life/advice-and-support
is also available to all Waikato students.

International Services Team
waikato.ac.nz/international/international-office/international-student-support

Rainbow Alliance
waikato.ac.nz/student-life/advice-and-support/rainbow-alliance

Learning Support
waikato.ac.nz/student-life/advice-and-support/student-learning

Accessibility Services
waikato.ac.nz/students/accessibility-services

TRANSCRIPTS

All study abroad and exchange students are provided with an academic transcript for their studies at Waikato. These are processed as trimester results are finalised, and emailed to the home institution contact. Where possible, issuing of final results will be accelerated if there is a reason for urgency (i.e. graduation) but this cannot be guaranteed.