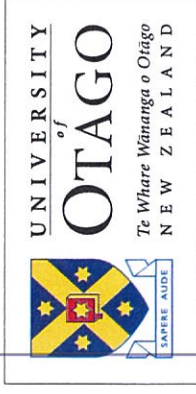


# Required & Recommended Background Subjects



Each year we field many questions from students, teachers and parents regarding prerequisites for first-year courses. Students are keen to know which Year 13 subjects they should take in order to best prepare them for success in their chosen university programme.

Below is a list of programmes offered by the University of Otago, and recommended school subjects. Most of these are not compulsory but are useful for best preparation.

## The Key

The Language-rich\* category includes reading, research and written communication based subjects such as English, History, Classics and History of Art, etc.

(+) Background learning useful

(++) Background learning recommended

If you have questions about course requirements, please contact the Liaison Office: [liaison@otago.ac.nz](mailto:liaison@otago.ac.nz)

## Arts / Humanities

It is possible to begin all Arts / Humanities (BA) majors (Anthropology to Tourism, Languages and Cultures) without a background in those subjects – even languages. Students who enjoy subjects at school such as English, History, Classics, Media Studies and Drama are encouraged to consider the full range of Arts majors as options for study. Music Performance students should have a background in music and are required to audition.

### Specialist Degrees

	Language-rich*	Other
Law (LLB)	++	Drama, Debating
Social Work (BSW)	++	Social Sciences
Theology (BTheol)	++	Social Sciences, Religious Education
Music (MusB)	++	Music
Performing Arts (BPA)	++	Drama, Music, Dance
Teaching (Secondary)	++	Focus on teaching areas
Teaching (Primary/Early Childhood Education)	++	Year 12 English, Mathematics and Sciences

## Commerce / Business

	Statistics	Calculus	Language-rich*	Other
Accounting	++	+	+	Accounting, Business Studies
Economics	++	+	+	Economics, Business Studies
Finance	++	++	+	Accounting, Economics, Business Studies
Human Resource Management	++		+	Business Studies
Information Science	++	+	+	Digi Tech, Business Studies
International Business Management	++		+	Economics, second language, Business Studies
Marketing Management	++		+	Business Studies
Philosophy, Politics + Economics (PPE)	++		++	Business Studies
Tourism	++		+	Economics, Geography, Tourism, Business Studies

## Health Sciences – Required Background Subjects to Year 13

	Chemistry	Biology	Physics	Statistics	Calculus	Language-rich*	Other
Oral Health		14 credits L3					10 credits (5 reading, 5 writing from L2 or L3 English)
Dental Technology	14 credits L3	+	14 credits L3	+	or	+	L2 Biology recommended
Radiation Therapy	16 Level 3 credits in: Physics or Biology / Maths or Calculus or Statistics / English or Te Reo or History or Art History or Classics or Geography						

## Health Sciences – Recommended Background Subjects to Year 13

	Chemistry	Biology	Physics	Statistics	Calculus	Language-rich*	Other
Health Sciences First Year	++	++	++	++	or +	+	Other
Biomedical Sciences	++	++	++	+		+	
Bachelor of Health Sciences (all majors)	++	++		++		++	Sciences, Chem, Health

## Sciences

	Chemistry	Biology	Physics	Statistics	Calculus	Language-rich*	Other
Anatomy	++	++		+			Geography, Sciences
Applied Geology		+		+	++		Geography, Sciences
Aquaculture + Fisheries	+	++		++	or +		Chemistry, Sciences
Biochemistry	++	++		+			Digi Tech, Physics
Botany		++		+			Digi Tech
Chemistry	++			+	or		Business, Food Tech, Home Ec, Chemistry
Computational Modelling				+	++		Geography, Sciences
Computer Science				+	++	+	Economics
Consumer Food Science		++		+			Digi Tech, Electronics
Ecology		++		++			Geography
Economics				++	++	+	Geography
Electronics			++	+	or		Geography, Sciences
Energy Management			++	+	or		Bus Studies, Food Tech, Home Ec, Sciences
Energy Studies			++	+	or		Physics
Engineering Intermediate	++		++		++		Digi Tech, Geography
Environmental Management		+		++	or		Geography, Sciences
Food Science	++	++		+	or		Home Ec, Sciences
Forensic Analytical Science	++	++		++	+		Physics
Genetics	++	++		++	+		Digi Tech, Geography
Geographic Information Systems				+	or		Geography, Sciences
Geography				++			Geography, Chemistry, Physics
Geology		+		+	++		Food Tech
Human Nutrition (Dietetics)	++	++		+		+	Digi Tech
Information Science				++	+	+	Geography, Physics
Land Planning and Development				++	++		Digi Tech
Mathematics							
Microbiology	++	++		+			Physics
Molecular Biotechnology	++	++		+			Geography
Neuroscience	++	++	+	+	++		
Oceanography	+	++	++	+			
Pharmacology	++	++		+			PE, Sciences, Chemistry
Physical Education (BPhEd)		++		++	++		Electronics
Physics			++				Physics
Physiology	++	++		+			
Plant Biotechnology	++	++		+			
Psychology		++		++		+	Digi Tech
Software Engineering				+	++		PE, Food Tech, Home Ec
Sport & Exercise Nutrition	++	++		+	or		PE, Design, Digi Tech, Chemistry
Sports Technology		++	+	+			
Statistics			++	++	++	+	Geography, Digi Tech, Physics
Surveying (BSurv)			+	+	++	+	Geography, Physics
Surveying Measurement			+	+	++	+	Geography, Physics
Zoology		++		++			