

PLANNING AHEAD GUIDE

CHOOSING YOUR SCHOOL SUBJECTS



Most subjects at Te Herenga Waka–Victoria University of Wellington can be started from an introductory level.

The recommended subjects in this guide will provide you with relevant preparation for particular courses or degrees. Subjects listed as prerequisites should be studied in Year 13, to ensure you have the relevant knowledge and skills to cope with the content of required courses for the degree or major of your choice.

If you do not have this prerequisite background in a subject, you will need to take bridging courses. If available, these courses may be best completed over the summer period prior to starting your first year, or you may be able to take them in trimester one or two.

Use this guide and the key to help choose your school subjects.

Key:

-  Recommended
-  Prerequisite

ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING SCIENCE

There are no prerequisite subjects to study Architecture but useful school subjects include Art, Calculus, Design, English, Design and Visual Communication, Physics, Statistics and Technology.

BUSINESS

Accounting, Business Studies, Calculus, Computer Science, Economics, Geography, Languages, Statistics, and essay-based subjects such as English and History will be useful for any Bachelor of Commerce degree, but most majors can be started without any specific background in that subject area. For Actuarial Science, Calculus is a prerequisite.

COMMUNICATION

There are no prerequisites for the Bachelor of Communication. All majors can be started from an introductory level in the first year.

DESIGN INNOVATION

Art, Design, Digital Technologies, Design and Visual Communication, Media Studies, and Technology are recommended for Bachelor of Design Innovation (BDI) students. Essay-based subjects are also recommended. No portfolio is required.

Students who do not have 14 credits in an English-rich subject at NCEA Level 3 must complete a writing-skills course in their first year of the BDI.

EDUCATION

Early Childhood Education

Recommended subjects for the Bachelor of Education (Teaching) Early Childhood include a balance of Sciences, Mathematics, and essay-based subjects such as English, Geography, and History. Creative subjects such as Design, Music Studies, and Practical Arts are also useful.

Primary and Secondary Teaching

Subjects relevant to those the student plans to teach are important preparation for the secondary pathway. Under the primary and early childhood education pathways, students will work across a broad range of learning areas, including Mathematics and Science. For all students, strong literacy and numeracy skills are essential. Knowledge of te reo Māori is useful as all student teachers are required to use this proficiently by the time they graduate; similarly, an understanding of New Zealand history is also helpful—though both can be studied from beginner level at the University.

ENGINEERING

Digital Technologies, Maths, Science, Statistics, and Technology are recommended for the Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (BE(Hons)). The BE(Hons), as well as Computer Science, Computer Graphics, and Electronic and Computer Systems (within the BSc) require NCEA Level 3 Mathematics. Students without the necessary Mathematics requirements will be able to take introductory courses in Trimester 1 that will help them meet prerequisites for core courses.

		Subjects		
		Physics	Digital Technology	Mathematics*
BE (Hons) majors	Cybersecurity Engineering		▼	▼▼
	Electrical and Electronic Engineering	▼	▼	▼▼
	Software Engineering		▼	▼▼

*Where Mathematics is a prerequisite, Calculus or Statistics would also be sufficient

HEALTH

There are no prerequisites for the Bachelor of Health. However, recommended subjects to study at school include Biology, English, Health, Home Economics, Physical Education, Physics, Science, Social Studies, and Statistics.

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

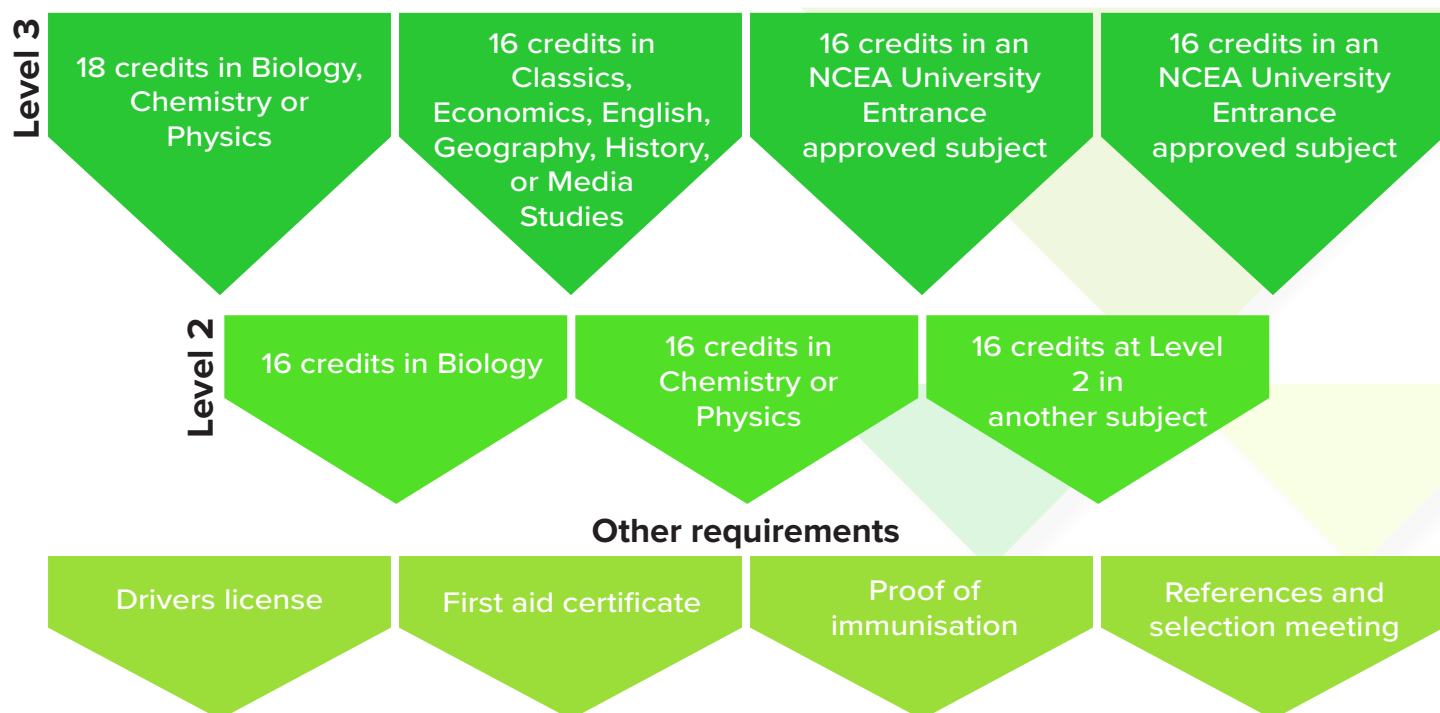
Any Bachelor of Arts major can be started from an introductory level. For some subjects, it is useful to have studied the relevant subject at school.

LAW

There are no prerequisites for the Bachelor of Laws. Students should study subjects that they 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.

MIDWIFERY

Entry to the Bachelor of Midwifery (BMid) requires certain NCEA subjects. This includes Biology, Chemistry, or Physics at Level 2 and Level 3, as well as an English-rich subject such as English, History, Art History, Classics, Geography, Economics, or Media Studies at Level 3. It is recommended that interested students get in touch with the University as early as possible to discuss a pathway.



For more information on entry requirements, visit www.wgtn.ac.nz/bmid or contact the Faculty of Health: health@vuw.ac.nz / 0800 04 04 04

MUSIC

Some prior knowledge of music (including knowledge of music theory) is recommended for the Bachelor of Music (BMus). However, some courses can be taken without prior study of music. The introductory course MUSC 160 Introduction to Music Theory and Musicianship is offered in Trimester 3 for students without a good foundation in music theory. Classical Performance and Jazz Performance students must audition.

Major	Entry requirements
Classical	You'll need to audition for a place in this subject, meeting a standard equivalent to Grade 8 in Associated Board exams. Prior knowledge of music theory is required.
Jazz Performance	You'll need to audition to show you have reached a level of technical and musical competence in a jazz style on your instrument or voice. Prior knowledge of music theory is required.
Instrumental/Vocal Composition	Prior knowledge of music theory is required.
Sonic Arts and Music Technology	Prior knowledge of music theory is required.
Music Studies	Prior knowledge of music theory is required.

For more information about entry requirements, visit our website: www.wgtn.ac.nz/nzsm

SCIENCE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

Bachelor of Science (BSc)

Most Bachelor of Science majors can be started at introductory level. Students of Actuarial Science, Chemistry, Computer Graphics, Computer Science, Electronic and Computer Systems, Geophysics, Mathematics, and Physics will need to have met NCEA, or equivalent, requirements of core courses linked to these majors. Students who do not meet these requirements can take these majors, but may need to take bridging or additional courses.

Bachelor of Biomedical Science (BBMedSc)

It is useful to study Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics. If students do not have the necessary background in Chemistry, introductory and bridging courses are offered in Trimester 3 and Trimester 1.

		Subjects					
		Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Calculus	Mathematics*	Other
BSc majors	Actuarial Science				▼▼		Economics
	Biology	▼				▼	
	Biotechnology	▼	▼▼				
	Cell and Molecular Bioscience	▼	▼▼				
	Chemistry		▼▼			▼	
	Computer Graphics and Games				▼	▼▼	Digital Technology
	Computer Science				▼	▼▼	Digital Technology
	Data Science					▼	Digital Technology
	Development Studies						
	Ecology and Biodiversity	▼				▼	
	Electronic and Computer Systems			▼	▼	▼▼	Digital Technology
	Environmental Science					▼	
	Environmental Studies					▼	Geography
	Geography					▼	Geography
	Geology			▼		▼	
	Geophysics			▼	▼	▼▼	Digital Technology
	Marine Biology	▼				▼	
	Mathematics				▼▼		
	Physical Geography					▼	Geography
	Physics			▼▼	▼▼		
Psychology					▼		
Science Communications						English-rich subjects	
Statistics					▼		
BBMedSc majors	Human Genetics	▼	▼▼			▼	
	Molecular Pathology	▼	▼▼			▼	
	Molecular Pharmacology and Medicinal Chemistry	▼	▼▼			▼	

*Where Mathematics is a prerequisite, Calculus or Statistics would also be sufficient