

Choosing the Right Subjects

Campus Details:

The only campus GlobaLinks Learning Abroad students may study at is the Christchurch Campus.

Paper (class) Selection:

- You will arrive at the page for Courses and Subject Search.
- Use the drop down listing at the bottom of the website to search for subjects by department.
- **Choose only Semester 1 papers if you're studying during Autumn or February term.**
- **Choose only Semester 2 papers if you're studying during the Winter or July term.**
- Make sure the papers you select are either 100, 200 or 300-level courses. Study abroad students are not eligible for courses above the 300-level.
- These papers are restricted entry only and NOT available to study abroad students:
 - Fine Arts (FIME)
 - Education courses

Prerequisites and Course Approval

Some papers may indicate prerequisites; the University of Canterbury will review your transcripts to ensure that you have met these prerequisites with equivalent classes. They will not, in most cases, require that you have taken their exact class. For example, if the prerequisite is History 101 – New Zealand History, you will need to have taken an introductory history class, not necessarily about New Zealand. Be sure that you have submitted updated transcripts to GlobaLinks Learning Abroad so that your prerequisites can be properly evaluated.

Based on availability and prerequisites, the University of Canterbury will either approve or not approve the paper for you to take. You will be notified on your MyLearn account of your paper (class) approvals under the Program Info tab “View My Subject Approvals”. If a paper is not approved based on prerequisites, you can approach the professor once you arrive and attempt to obtain approval in person.

Course Scheduling and Enrollment

Timetables at most universities are not published until just before the semester begins. Therefore, you will not actually enroll in your papers (classes) until after you arrive. The majority of classes do not have quotas, so you shouldn't have to worry about space filling up. You will choose your classes from your list of papers approved by both the University of Canterbury and your US University, according to how they fit into your schedule. If you choose to enroll in any papers that were not pre-approved by your US University, you should contact your university from New Zealand in order to obtain the necessary approval. Be sure to bring your study abroad advisor's contact information with you. We will be sending you more information about approvals once we receive your paper choices.

Academic Differences between New Zealand and the U.S./Canada

In general, New Zealanders complete their Bachelor's degrees in 3 years. They do not have to fulfill core requirements in a variety of disciplines, so they start taking classes towards their major during their first semester. Therefore, 1st year classes in New Zealand are generally equivalent to 2nd year classes in the US; 2nd year New Zealand classes are equivalent to 3rd year US classes; and 3rd year New Zealand classes are equivalent to 4th year US classes. There are always exceptions to this, however, and it is up to your US University to decide the credit and level they will award.

Often times it is expected that students spend a lot of time outside of the classroom doing their own research/study/reading. Every university varies somewhat, but in general, you should be prepared for some differences between the overseas and the U.S./Canadian academic systems and be aware that you may experience a period of adjustment.