

2025



VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF
WELLINGTON
TE HERENGA WAKA

TOHU PAETAHI AO WHĀNUI

BACHELOR OF

GLOBAL STUDIES







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OUTSTANDING



Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington has been awarded an overall five-stars-plus rating in the QS Stars university rating system, one of only 17 universities worldwide to do so. The University gained a total score of 966 out of a possible 1,000 points across eight audited categories, including maximum points for the employability and inclusiveness categories. Maximum points were awarded for 25 of the more than 30 indicators, including overall student satisfaction; further study; graduate employment rate; international diversity, support, and collaborations; academic reputation; satisfaction with teaching; campus facilities; accreditations; art and cultural investment and facilities; disabled access; scholarships and bursaries; low-income outreach; and student cohort diversity.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington uses all reasonable skill and care to ensure the information contained here was accurate at the time it was prepared. However, matters covered by this publication are subject to change due to a continuous process of review, and to unanticipated circumstances. The University therefore reserves the right to make any changes without notice. So far as the law permits, the University accepts no responsibility for any loss suffered by any person due to reliance (either whole or in part) on the information contained in this publication, whether direct or indirect, and whether foreseeable or not.

TOHU PAETAHI AO WHĀNUI

BACHELOR OF GLOBAL STUDIES

LAUNCH AN INTERNATIONAL CAREER

Gain the interdisciplinary and intercultural abilities necessary for a career, locally and around the world, in a range of industries and institutions, including foreign affairs and diplomacy, government, non-governmental organisations, policy and research, public and private international organisations, teaching, and tourism. The University has strong connections with community, corporate, cultural, diplomatic, legal, media, non-governmental, political, public sector, and scientific organisations. Our capital city connections mean students have excellent opportunities for part-time work, volunteering, and internships, as well as networking for jobs once they graduate.

LEAD CHANGE AND GROWTH

The Bachelor of Global Studies (BGS) will give you the flexibility to study what matters to you, as it prepares you to contribute to change and problem-solving in our globalised world. As global problems affect the everyday lives of billions of people, and local decisions have global implications, we need people who can seek new solutions. The BGS creates graduates who understand the interdependent relationships between states, people, and cultures, and appreciate the differences that come with them. The BGS will equip you to take on the world with the intercultural, interdisciplinary, leadership, and teamwork skills to seek solutions and positive change locally and globally.

LEARN FROM THE BEST

The University is ranked in the top 1 percent by the QS World University Rankings, and number one in research quality in New Zealand across a broad range of subjects by the Performance-Based Research Fund. Our staff are nationally and internationally renowned scholars who are imaginative and passionate teachers.

CONNECT WITH INDUSTRY

Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington's capital city location gives our students access to change-makers in the hub of national and international politics, policy, science, commerce, diplomacy, and culture. Studying for a BGS in Wellington gives you direct access to organisations, businesses, and institutions whose daily dealings are in global spheres or have global outcomes.



▼

"If you want to be part of the global community shaping the future of our world, including human rights, health and wellbeing, and the environment, then a Bachelor of Global Studies can set you on that path. Studying in our nation's capital will help you build the local and global connections you need to become a leader of the future."

Professor Sarah Leggott

Dean, Te Wāhanga Aronui—Faculty of
Humanities and Social Sciences

DEGREE STRUCTURE

Our BGS is made up of three years of full-time study and requires you to take courses totalling at least 360 points. You'll pursue your areas of interest through a mixture of required courses, electives, and two minors.

CORE COURSES

All BGS students must complete four common courses across their degree. These are the core courses of the Bachelor of Global Studies. They help place the remaining courses in a global context and ensure all students have the same grounding in global studies theory while building a degree that suits their interests and passions.

ELECTIVES

You will have the opportunity to select at least three courses from a range of subjects across the University to complete as part of your degree—these are often known as electives. One of these must be chosen from the Māori Studies courses. You can also choose other courses from the list of electives to complete the 360 points required for the BGS.

LANGUAGES

All BGS students must study a language as part of their degree. You can pick from Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Māori, New Zealand Sign Language, Sāmoan, and Spanish. There are courses available to suit everyone, whether they have studied the language before or are a beginner.

MINORS

In the BGS, you must take at least two minors. Each minor is made up of a selection of theme-based courses from across the University, and you will need to do at least three of those courses to gain a minor. You can also opt to take extra courses from your chosen minors to complete your degree. There are eight minors in the BGS, which allow you to pursue the areas of Global Studies that most appeal to you. You can learn more about these on page 6.



SAMPLE DEGREE

This sample degree structure shows you how your Bachelor of Global Studies might look with two minors. Each course is worth 20 points, for a total of 360 points in three years.

YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3	
Core course	Māori studies elective	Core course	Language course	Minor 1 course	Core course
Core course	Elective*	Minor 1 course	Minor 1 course	Minor 2 course	Minor 1 course
Language course	Language course	Minor 2 course	Minor 2 course	Elective	Minor 2 course

*This elective must be chosen from a specified list of 18 courses.



“I chose to do a Bachelor of Global Studies because I have a big range of interests and it’s a very flexible degree. In my first year, I have had such amazing opportunities to learn about a huge range of things, from art history to international relations to environmental issues.

“While I have grown to be a lot more independent and responsible while at university, I also really like the community aspect. All my tutors and lecturers have been so friendly and helpful, and it’s been amazing getting to know people in my classes too.”

Florence Cook

Student, Bachelor of Global Studies minoring in Ethical Leadership and Intercultural Communication, and Area and Cultural Studies

EXPLORE OUR MINORS

AREA AND CULTURAL STUDIES

Learn about the historical and contemporary issues facing specific countries and places, as well as the cultures that grew from those areas and how they have spread around the globe. You'll study subjects ranging from Politics to Film and Music, as well as languages and cultures, and gain an understanding of people and places around the world.

CULTURES AND IDENTITIES

Discover the history of global attitudes towards identity—including cultural, gender and sexuality, and Indigenous identities—and investigate the impact of changing attitudes towards them. As part of this minor, you'll have the opportunity to study subjects ranging from Anthropology and Art History to Geography, Māori Studies, and Pacific Studies.

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

In this minor, you'll look at the global cultural impacts of climate change and the breakdown of the environment and examine worldwide attempts to deal with the big environmental issues facing our world. You'll be able to choose from subjects including English Literature, Management, Religious Studies, Science in Society, and more.

ETHICAL LEADERSHIP AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

Learn the pleasures and pitfalls of communicating across cultures and how to lead effectively when working with people from varied cultural backgrounds. You'll focus on courses in Management and Intercultural Communication and learn how to be an effective global leader.



GLOBAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Life in our global society still includes the reality that some have access to medicines, treatments, and healthcare, while others do not. In this minor, you'll learn about the roots of these inequalities and how they can be changed. You'll study a range of courses from health and design, as well as Marketing, Religious Studies, and more.

GLOBALISATION, MOVEMENT, AND CHANGE

Look at the way that people have moved—and continue to move—around the world and examine the impacts of migration, global communities, and cultures on people and societies. This minor includes a range of courses such as Anthropology, Geography, Māori Studies, and Religious Studies.

HUMAN RIGHTS, JUSTICE, AND PEACE

Find out how we can create peace and preserve human rights across nations with different historic legal systems and approaches to law and justice. This minor includes several courses in Anthropology, History, and International Relations, as well as other subjects that will help you learn about the historical and contemporary state of human rights around the globe.

WORLD AFFAIRS AND ORGANISATIONS

In this minor, you'll examine the intersection of capitalism and culture, find out what's required to run an international business, and learn about the potential impacts of a globalised economy on developing nations. You'll focus on courses in International Business and Economics, as well as Public Policy, Political Communication, and others.



“Global Studies is very flexible—you're free to share your opinions and study in a way that suits you.

“I think people don't understand the importance of collaboration and teamwork, and it's often missed between high school and the workplace. The BGS gives you that experience, and I think will give all of us a step ahead after we leave university.”

Tarita Lefale

Student, Bachelor of Global Studies minoring in Environment and Sustainability, Human Rights, Justice, and Peace, and Māori Studies, and Bachelor of Laws



POSTGRADUATE PATHWAYS

Studying for a Bachelor of Global Studies prepares you for postgraduate study in several different areas.

Students who complete their degree with a grade point average of B or higher will be eligible to apply to study for the following degrees:

- ▶ Master of Communication
- ▶ Master of Global Business
- ▶ Master of International Trade
- ▶ Master of Migration Studies
- ▶ Master of Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

Students who complete their degree with a grade point average of B+ or higher will also be eligible to apply to study for the:

- ▶ Bachelor of Arts with Honours
- ▶ Bachelor of Science with Honours
- ▶ Master of Development Studies
- ▶ Master of Political Science
- ▶ Master of Science.

Students who complete their degree and gain at least two years' work experience in the public sector, or have a grade point average of A- or higher, will be eligible to apply to study for the:

- ▶ Master of Public Management
- ▶ Master of Public Policy.

Depending on the options taken within their minors, students will also be eligible to apply to study for a range of other Master's degrees, including:

- ▶ Master of Climate Change Science and Policy
- ▶ Master of Design Innovation

- ▶ Master of Environmental Studies
- ▶ Master of Health
- ▶ Master of Intercultural Communication and Applied Translation (for students who complete extensive courses in their chosen language)
- ▶ Master of International Relations
- ▶ Master of Science in Society
- ▶ Master of Strategic Studies
- ▶ Master of Urban and Regional Planning.

Depending on the selection of minors and electives, students may also be eligible for entry into other Honours programmes with permission of the programme director or head of school.

For example, students who continue studying their chosen language up to 300 level will be eligible for Honours and Master's degrees in that language.

i www.wgtn.ac.nz/masters





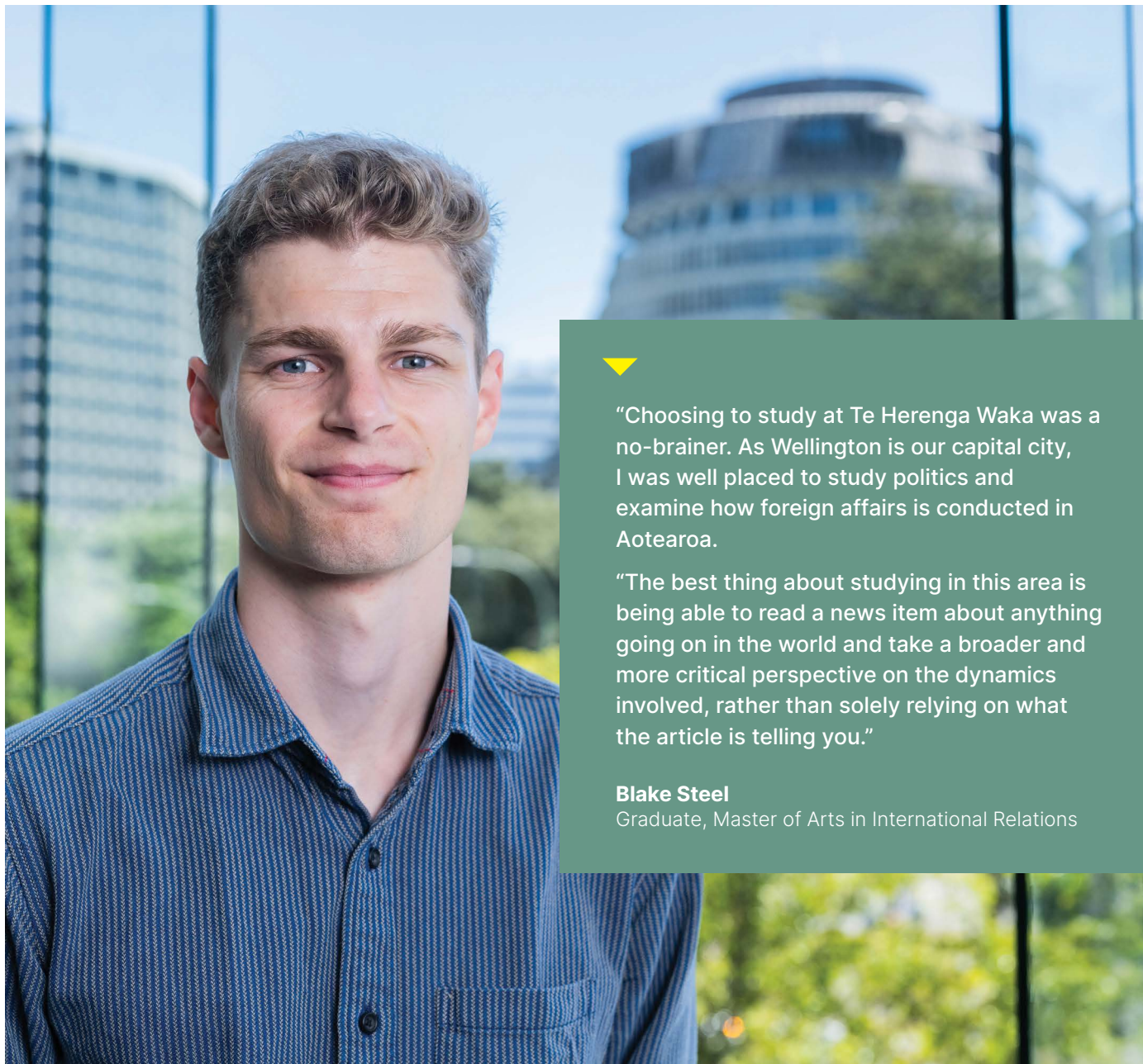
CAREERS

With our BGS, you'll graduate as an informed and engaged global citizen, with the skills to create change, collaborate, and seek solutions for the challenges facing our societies and cultures today and in the future. Studying in Wellington will help you make connections with change-makers in Aotearoa New Zealand and around the world and keep up to date with the latest developments in policy and society.

A Bachelor of Global Studies prepares students for careers in many fields, both in Aotearoa and overseas. A graduate of the BGS could pursue careers in:

- ▶ the public sector, both local and international
- ▶ government service, including the diplomatic service, both local and international
- ▶ the United Nations system and other international organisations
- ▶ social entrepreneurship and companies with a global outreach
- ▶ politics and international relations
- ▶ global health and community development
- ▶ journalism, including travel journalism
- ▶ travel and tourism.

The degree's industry advisory board will also ensure that your degree is preparing you for the workforce. The board provides support and advice to the University, making sure the BGS is always relevant to industry practices and requirements.



“Choosing to study at Te Herenga Waka was a no-brainer. As Wellington is our capital city, I was well placed to study politics and examine how foreign affairs is conducted in Aotearoa.

“The best thing about studying in this area is being able to read a news item about anything going on in the world and take a broader and more critical perspective on the dynamics involved, rather than solely relying on what the article is telling you.”

Blake Steel

Graduate, Master of Arts in International Relations

FIND OUT MORE

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/bgs

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/apply

ADMISSION AND ENROLMENT

You can apply for admission up to two years in advance of the year you plan to start studying. Apply through our student portal, Pūaha. Once you have met the requirements, you will receive either a conditional or an unconditional Offer of Place. Accept your offer to confirm your admission.

After accepting your Offer of Place, you will be invited to select your courses once course enrolment is open. You select courses for one academic year at a time.

To enrol in a BGS, you will need University Entrance, or to meet the requirements of another admission type. For more information, go to www.wgtn.ac.nz/study

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/puaha


CONTACT US


Te Wāhanga Aronui

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Student Service Centre


Level 4, Murphy Building, Kelburn Campus

 0800 04 04 04

 info@vuw.ac.nz

COURSE PLANNING

For help with course planning, contact Te Kahupapa—Future Students.

 0800 04 04 04

 future-students@vuw.ac.nz

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/courses

OTHER STUDENT RESOURCES

Disability support

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/disability

Māori student support

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/awhina

Pasifika student success

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/pasifika


Rainbow student support

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/rainbow

Refugee-background student support

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/refugee-background-students

Scholarships

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/scholarships

Student services and support

 www.wgtn.ac.nz/student-support





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🌐 www.wgtn.ac.nz/study