

AUT

TE WĀNANGA ARONUI
O TĀMAKI MAKAU RAU

COMMUNICATION
COMMUNICATION
COMMUNICATION
COMMUNICATION
COMMUNICATION
COMMUNICATION
**COMMUNICATION
STUDIES**

UNDERGRADUATE
PROGRAMME GUIDE 2027

**KNOWLEDGE
THAT WORKS**

Nau mai, haere mai ki AUT WELCOME TO AUT

E ngā mana, e ngā reo
E te iti, e te rahi
E ngā mātāwaka o ngā tōpito o te ao
Ngā mahuetanga iho e kawe nei i ngā
moemoeā o rātou mā
Tēnā koutou katoa

Piki mai rā, kake mai rā,
Nau mai, haere mai ki tēnei o ngā wānanga
Whakatau mai i raro i te korowai āhuru o Te Wānanga
Aronui o Tāmaki Makau Rau

Te whakatupu i te kōunga, i te mana taurite me ngā
tikanga matatika, i ngā pūkenga ako,
i ngā pūkenga whakaako me te āta rangahau hei hāpai
i ngā hāpori whānui o te motu, otirā, o te ao.

To the prestigious, the many voices
The few, the great
To those of all races and creeds
We who remain to fulfil the dreams and
aspirations of the ancestors
Greetings one and all

Climb, ascend
Embark on the journey of knowledge
Let us at AUT embrace and empower you
To strive for and achieve excellence

To foster excellence, equity and ethics in
learning, teaching, research and scholarship,
and in so doing serve our regional, national
and international communities.

Ngā ihirangi CONTENTS

About AUT

- 02 Why study at AUT?
- 04 Student life

Course information

Bachelor of Communication Studies

- 06 Overview
- 09 Advertising and Brand Creativity
- 10 Digital Communication
- 11 Journalism
- 12 Public Relations
- 13 Radio and Audio Media
- 14 Screen Production

- 16 Overview of our postgraduate qualifications

Applying for your programme

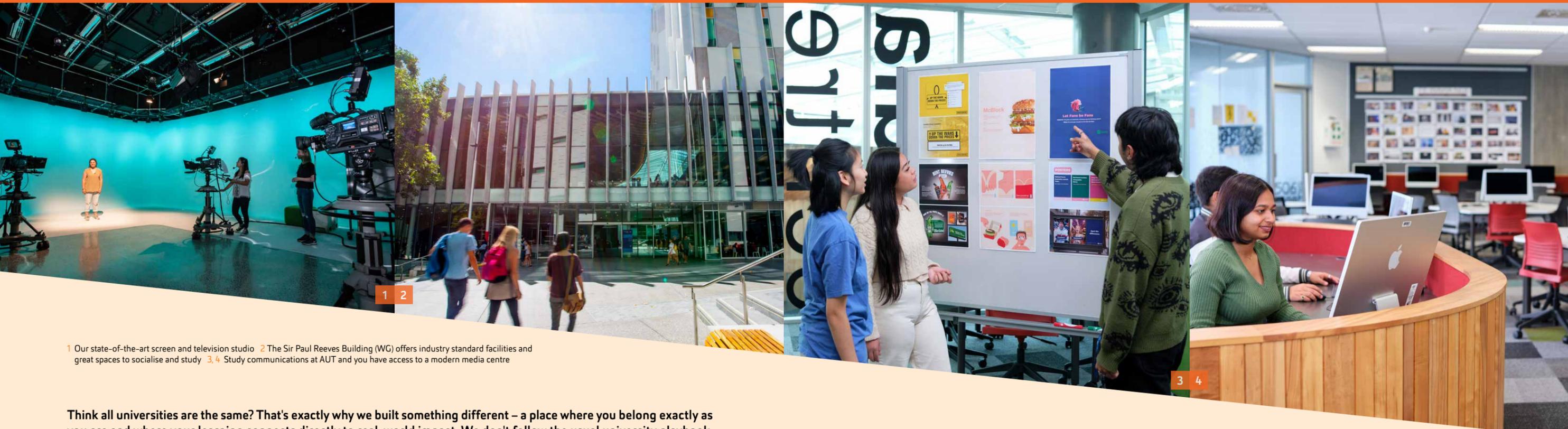
- 18 University entrance
- 20 Fees and scholarships
- 22 How to apply
- 24 Find out more

Disclaimer: Although every reasonable effort is made to ensure accuracy, the information in this document is provided as a general guide only for students and is subject to change. All students enrolling at AUT should consult its official document, the AUT Calendar, which is available online at aut.ac.nz/calendar, to ensure that they are aware of, and comply with, all regulations, requirements and policies. The information contained in this programme guide was correct at the time of print, December 2025.



He aha ai e ako ki AUT? WHY STUDY AT AUT?

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead and stories about our graduates and students.



1 Our state-of-the-art screen and television studio 2 The Sir Paul Reeves Building (WG) offers industry standard facilities and great spaces to socialise and study 3, 4 Study communications at AUT and you have access to a modern media centre

Think all universities are the same? That's exactly why we built something different – a place where you belong exactly as you are and where your learning connects directly to real-world impact. We don't follow the usual university playbook, because different gets better results. Ready to see how?

Confident in your future

Communication and media careers aren't built on essays. They're built on work you can show. Our students graduate with portfolios full of it – creating advertising and PR campaigns for real clients, or producing films, podcasts and radio content in professional studios. Small classes mean you work with lecturers who critique your work like the industry will. By the time you graduate, you won't just have a degree; you'll have proof you can deliver and the confidence that comes with it.

Built for the real world

Most universities teach you to think. We also teach you to do. At AUT, your studies connect learning to real-world application from day one. Our practical degrees include hands-on projects, workplace experience and the skills employers actually want. In communication studies, you won't just study campaigns; you'll be part of Outside the Square, our student-run PR consultancy, working with real clients. You won't just learn about radio; you'll broadcast live on Static FM to thousands of listeners. You won't just write stories; you'll publish them on Te Waha Nui, our student newspaper.

Industry-standard facilities

Theory's important. But at AUT, the real work happens in our world-class facilities – performance studios, radio stations, sound and edit suites, a motion capture studio, a virtual production suite and specialist equipment; the same technology professionals use daily. Our spaces are built to be used, and your learning connects directly to what the industry needs. You'll work with professional broadcast and audio studios, collaborate in modern spaces and develop your skills using industry-standard equipment.

Research that shapes tomorrow

Our research tackles real-world challenges in communication – media innovation, crisis communication, digital storytelling. We partner with industry and communities to drive meaningful change, creating knowledge that works well beyond the university. As a communication studies student, you'll learn from academics who are actively researching the field. What you're taught reflects what's happening now, not just what's in textbooks.

Oranga Taura STUDENT LIFE

We see you. We back you. Your success is our mission. It's care you can feel every day. This is AUT.

You're seen from day one

Orientation isn't really about maps or lecture rooms; it's about connection. This is where you'll meet the people who'll message you notes when you miss class, hype you up before a big presentation and check in when life gets heavy. It's also where you'll prep for academic success, and find out where to get help when you need it and who'll have your back throughout your time here. And that care carries on long after your first week. When you drop into the Student Hub – whether it's on campus or online – you'll find caring staff who remember your face, ask how things are going and genuinely want to help you sort whatever you need sorted.

Find your people

Over 90 clubs covering social, cultural, creative and special interests. Sports teams. Faith communities. Sustainability projects. Whatever your thing is, there's space for it – and if there isn't, start something new. You'll find recreation spaces and gyms where you can train or clear your head, social sports leagues where you can compete with mates, and opportunities to represent AUT through University and Tertiary Sport NZ. You'll find cafés and student lounges to hang out in, and places to grab food between classes. Throughout the year there are cultural festivals, guest speakers, performances and competitions; plenty of chances to get involved, try something different and make things happen.

Communities where you belong

At AUT we celebrate diversity. We're proud to be a Pride Pledge university and we're deeply committed to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Belonging isn't a slogan. It's real, everyday spaces where you don't have to explain yourself. You'll find Māori and Pacific communities where culture leads the way, rainbow spaces that feel safe and joyful; support built around what disabled, Deaf and neurodivergent students need to thrive; guidance for international students finding their place in Aotearoa, and advocacy that makes sure your voice is heard.

Support that actually shows up

Uni is full of highs, lows and late night panic moments, and you're not expected to push through any of it alone. You'll have academic support that makes tricky assignments feel manageable, library research help when you're stuck, workshops to build your skills, counselling and medical care you can access without stress, practical help when money is tight – including food support and even laptops if you need them – and tech support that keeps your study running smoothly. Whatever you're facing, there's someone here who knows how to make it easier. And you can feel safe while you're here – our campuses are monitored 24/7.

Your future starts now

Employability isn't something you leave until graduation – it's woven through everything you do. You'll get career advice from people who understand your industry and what it's like to move from university to the working world, events where you can meet employers throughout the year, job boards linking you to opportunities, and volunteering and leadership activities, and real-world projects that build your confidence. Whether you're exploring internships, starting your own venture with entrepreneurship support or studying overseas at one of our partner universities, you'll find momentum that carries you into what comes next.

Want to know more?

Scan for full details on clubs, support services, campus facilities and everything else that makes AUT feel like your place.



Bachelor of Communication Studies

Overview

BCS | AK3303

QUICK FACTS

Level	7
Points	360
Duration	3 years full-time
Campus	City
Starts	22 Feb & 12 July 2027

Want to shape the stories people talk about? This degree sets you up to do just that. Our graduates work in leading companies and media outlets, and their ideas win big; from Cannes Lions and AXIS to ORCA, D&AD New Blood and the Advertising Capstone Challenge.

You'll learn in spaces built for the real world – our media centre and professional studios, creating campaigns and content using the same equipment the industry uses. Graduate with skills that cross disciplines, a degree built around your interests and the practical experience that makes you ready for what's next.

Entry requirements

Minimum entry requirements

University Entrance or equivalent

Useful New Zealand school subjects

Language rich subjects are useful, including Art History, Business Studies, Classical Studies, Drama, Economics, English, Geography, Health Education, History, Media Studies, Physical Education, Social Studies, Statistics, Te Reo Māori, Te Reo Rangatira

English language requirements

IELTS (Academic) 6.0 overall with all bands 5.5 or higher; or equivalent

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead, and stories about our graduates and students.



What this qualification covers

The Bachelor of Communication Studies is highly flexible and you can build your degree in a way that reflects your interests.

To graduate with a Bachelor of Communication Studies you need to complete:

Core courses (120 points)

These are courses all students in this degree need to take in the first year. They give you a basic understanding of the media world and communication theories, and help you decide which subject to focus on later in your studies.

Your chosen major (120 points)

Your major is the subject area you want to specialise in. This makes up one third of your degree, and usually consists of eight courses related to your chosen subject. You can view the list of majors in this degree on page 8.

Flexible component (120 points)

You can choose one of the following options:

- Two minors (60 points each); or
- A minor (60 points) and elective courses (60 points); or
- A second major (120 points)

Your second major, minor(s) and elective courses can be from communication studies or from different AUT degrees.



"The practical elements of my degree, and the relationships I built with my lecturers and people I'm now working with in the advertising industry were highlights for me. Throughout my degree, I gained valuable experience working on group projects and participating in our Friday Smash classes, where we focused on effective teamwork. These experiences have been crucial in helping me thrive in the industry. I now specialise in the end-to-end creation and production of dynamic social media content, working closely with a wide range of clients to craft visually compelling and strategically aligned campaign elements. From conceptualising and filming captivating videos to meticulously editing and optimising for various platforms, I ensure that every piece of content drives engagement and enhances brand visibility."

Levi McMillan
Social Content Creator, DDB
Bachelor of Communication Studies in Advertising and Brand Creativity with a minor in Digital Communication

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
SEMESTER 1	Text, Image & Sound 15 PTS	Major course 15 PTS	Major course 15 PTS
	Mahitahi I Collaborative Practices 15 PTS	Major course 15 PTS	Major course 15 PTS
	Media Production Foundations 15 PTS	Flexible component 15 PTS	Flexible component 15 PTS
	Media, Technology & Society 15 PTS	Flexible component 15 PTS	Flexible component 15 PTS
SEMESTER 2	Communication Ethics 15 PTS	Major course 15 PTS	Major course 15 PTS
	Media, Politics & Citizenship 15 PTS	Major course 15 PTS	Major course 15 PTS
	Intercultural Communication 15 PTS	Flexible component 15 PTS	Flexible component 15 PTS
	Media Production Studio 15 PTS	Flexible component 15 PTS	Flexible component 15 PTS

Core courses PTS: Points

Bachelor of Communication Studies

Overview continued

Majors

Choose one of these majors as part of your degree:

- Advertising and Brand Creativity
- Digital Communication
- Journalism
- Public Relations
- Radio and Audio Media
- Screen Production

Refer to pages 9 to 14 for more details on each of these majors. Some majors are popular and have limited places, so we may look at your first-year results as part of the selection process.

If you want to include a second major in your degree, you can choose another subject from the list above or you can see more options from different AUT degrees on aut.ac.nz/majors-minors

Minors

A minor is smaller than a major. It usually consists of four courses. If you decide to include a minor in your degree, you could choose from:

- Advertising and Brand Creativity
- Communication for Social Change
- Digital Communication
- Journalism
- Media and Power
- Multi-Camera Production
- Professional Performance Communication
- Public Relations
- Radio and Audio Media
- Screen Production

For more information on each of these minors and to see even more minors from other subjects visit aut.ac.nz/majors-minors



Build your degree on our website

Visit our website to build your own degree and see what your three years of study could look like. Simply scan the QR code on page 7.

Possible combinations include:

- Bachelor of Communication Studies in Public Relations with minors in Advertising and Brand Creativity & Event Management (one major, two minors)
- Bachelor of Communication Studies in Journalism with a minor in Communication for Social Change (one major, one minor, plus elective courses of your choice)
- Bachelor of Communication Studies in Advertising and Brand Creativity & Marketing (two majors)

Bachelor of Communication Studies

Advertising and Brand Creativity

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead, and stories about our graduates and students.



Advertising is about bold ideas that cut through. You'll start with a blank page, push past the obvious and craft campaigns that make brands stand out. AUT is the only university in New Zealand teaching advertising creativity at degree level, and we keep you close to the industry – learning from guest speakers at agencies and brands like Google, TVNZ, Spark, MediaWorks, Saatchi & Saatchi, DDB, Colenso BBDO, FCB New Zealand and Film Construction. By the time you graduate, you'll have the portfolio and connections to launch your career.

What this major covers

YEAR 1

Year 1 is the same for everyone – core courses that give you the full picture of media and communications. Then you choose what communications area you want to focus on.

YEAR 2

This is where you dive into advertising and brand creativity. You'll take four courses covering the advertising industry's global reach, creative strategy and what makes campaigns actually work. You'll balance this with courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives.

YEAR 3

Year 3 is portfolio year. You'll work on real briefs for real clients, creating ads that could make it into the media. Agencies often brief students directly, and many offer workplace experience. You'll also take courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives to round out your degree.

Career opportunities

- Account director or planner
- Art director
- Copywriter
- Digital creative or strategist
- Media buyer/planner
- Strategic planner
- Web content creator
- Marketing manager



"I loved that in the communications degree you quickly learn what you're passionate about. With a wide range of subjects in the first year, there's nothing that you don't get to try hands on. It made it easy to choose which subjects I wanted to focus on in my second and third year. In my final year, I was also lucky enough to go for the Student ORCA (Outstanding Radio Creative Awards). My creative partner and I were able to experience a live recording of three radio scripts we had written. We attended the awards shortly after and managed to walk out with second place. I'm now working at Chemistry, looking after a variety of clients and their social accounts where I plan, help create and publish content. The people are full of life and the work is inspiring."

Brooke McGrath

Business Executive, Chemistry
Bachelor of Communication Studies in Advertising and Brand Creativity & Public Relations

Bachelor of Communication Studies Digital Communication

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead, and stories about our graduates and students.



Digital media runs the world. This major teaches you to build it, shape it and make it work. You'll combine creative thinking with technical skills to design experiences that grab attention. You'll design websites, concept apps, create video and motion graphics – building a portfolio that proves you can keep pace with the fast-moving world of digital media. And because digital communication is everywhere, you can also pair this major with another subject to broaden your media production skills and open doors to any media or communications role.

What this major covers

YEAR 1

Year 1 is the same for everyone – core courses that give you the full picture of media and communications. Then you choose what communications area you want to focus on.

YEAR 2

This is where you'll focus on digital communication through four courses that cover interactive production for web and mobile, design principles and the strategies behind effective digital storytelling. You'll balance this with courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives.

YEAR 3

In Year 3 you'll run digital projects from idea to launch, creating work for mobile, broadcast and online platforms. You'll sharpen your strategic thinking and production expertise, working with video, audio and other digital media. You'll also take courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives to round out your degree.

Career opportunities

- Digital strategist
- Digital media project manager, producer or consultant
- Digital video specialist
- Instructional media designer
- Interactive media producer or consultant
- Mobile app designer or mobile content developer
- Motion graphics designer
- User experience (UX) or interface (UI) designer
- Web administrator or web designer



"At AUT we got to explore video editing, animation, illustration design, audio editing and 3D modelling. However, the course on user experience (UX) stood out to me – it sparked my passion for UX and ultimately set me on my career path. I'm now part of a team responsible for designing the end-to-end experience and user interfaces for our digital products, including The New Zealand Herald, Viva, The Listener and Driven. We've significantly enhanced our websites' overall user experience through SEO initiatives, storytelling and a redesign of core structures. This has made a real impact on our digital presence. Working at one of New Zealand's top media companies means seeing your work actively improve the user experience in real time."

Dean Talavera
Intermediate UX Designer, NZME
Bachelor of Communication Studies in Digital Media & Bachelor of Business in Marketing conjoint programmes

Bachelor of Communication Studies Journalism

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead, and stories about our graduates and students.



The news cycle never stops – and neither does the need for truth. In a world of instant updates and viral misinformation, journalism is about cutting through the noise with accuracy, fairness and ethical storytelling. You'll learn to write with impact, verify facts and ask the questions that uncover what really matters. Our journalism team is recognised nationally and internationally for research and industry experience, so you'll learn from journalists and researchers who've shaped stories nationally and internationally; people who know the industry inside out.

What this major covers

YEAR 1

Year 1 is the same for everyone – core courses that give you the full picture of media and communications. Then you choose what communications area you want to focus on.

YEAR 2

This is where you focus on journalism. You'll take three courses that cover news reporting, longform writing, cross-platform storytelling, bicultural and cross-cultural journalism, plus media law and ethics. You'll balance this with courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives.

YEAR 3

In Year 3 theory becomes practice. You'll take part in live reporting assignments, pitch stories to editors in the industry and contribute to Te Waha Nui, our student-edited news site. You'll also take courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives to round out your degree.

Workplace experience

Industry experience is a big part of this major. You'll complete a two-week placement in a newsroom or a publication across different media platforms, working alongside professionals at the country's leading media organisations. During your studies, you'll also have opportunities for paid shifts in a variety of newsrooms, giving you real-world experience before you graduate.

Career opportunities

- News reporter for newspapers, magazines, television, radio or online media
- Freelance journalist/specialist writer
- Production journalist, web editor or producer
- Researcher/communication specialist



"Since being at NBC News, I've been a part of the newsgathering and coverage for the Israel-Hamas war, the Turkey earthquake, and Pope Francis' death and the Conclave. I've also had the opportunity to do live producer coverage for Wimbledon 2024 and for the UK-hosted Ukraine talks. These are things I would have never dreamt of doing, coming from little old Aotearoa. Because AUT is so hands on I felt very prepared when I started my first full-time job after graduating. Although COVID meant that my last year looked a bit different, I was able to experience what it was like to run and work at a newspaper at Te Waha Nui. When it came to working in my first real newsroom, I was a lot less nervous because of this experience!"

Zoe Holland
Ngāpuhi
Foreign Desk Editor, NBC News, London
Bachelor of Communication Studies in Journalism with a minor in Radio

Bachelor of Communication Studies Public Relations

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead, and stories about our graduates and students.



Public relations is all about relationships and influence; the kind that changes minds, builds trust and sparks action. One day you could be planning a celebrity campaign, the next briefing business leaders or driving a global health initiative. Accredited by PRINZ and the Public Relations Society of America, this major connects you to the industry through strong ties with leading consultancies and organisations. You'll learn to manage reputations and relationships, craft persuasive messages and lead conversations that matter. And because our lecturers know the industry inside out, you'll gain more than theory – you'll build professional connections and work on real projects that show you exactly what PR looks like in practice.

What this major covers

YEAR 1

Year 1 is the same for everyone – core courses that give you the full picture of media and communications. Then you choose what communications area you want to focus on.

YEAR 2

This is where you focus on public relations. You'll take four courses covering the practice and specialisms of public relations, reputation management, strategic messaging, and the art of persuasion. You'll balance this with courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives.

YEAR 3

In your final year, you'll be part of Outside the Square (OTS), our student-run PR consultancy. You'll work in teams on actual client briefs, developing communication strategies and delivering campaigns on deadline and on budget. Recent clients included Child Cancer Foundation, PRINZ, Citizens Advice Bureau and Basement Theatre; all organisations trusting you with their reputation.

Your other courses cover the application of multimedia in digital PR, political and social issue campaigns, and strategic communication planning. You'll also take courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives.

Career opportunities

- Corporate communications executive
- Public relations consultant
- Marketing communications executive
- Government communicator
- Internal communications advisor
- Community relations manager
- Cultural mediator
- Media relations manager
- Influencer campaign manager



"I just loved how the communications degree really let our creative imagination run wild and we were never short of moments to truly feel inspired. I particularly remember my third year at AUT when we were able to get involved with a local charity to run a mock PR campaign. At the time we had an absolute blast as it felt the closest to being in the field. Somewhere I still have the press release I wrote for the assignment. The art of PR is storytelling, and what makes it truly exciting is when you get to tell stories that are ahead of the public discourse, and that's exactly what I now do at SBS. From genetic optimisation to achieving AI superintelligence, no two days are ever the same – nor are they ever boring!"

Ben Fitchett

Account Manager, SBS Comms, Los Angeles
Bachelor of Communication Studies in
Public Relations with a minor in
Creative Entrepreneurship

Bachelor of Communication Studies Radio and Audio Media

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead, and stories about our graduates and students.



Sound matters – and so does the voice behind it. Radio and audio media are fast, dynamic and everywhere. From live shows that set the tone for the day to podcasts and documentaries shaping culture, this major puts you at the heart of it. You'll learn the craft behind creating content that connects, and the business that keeps stations and platforms running. You'll work at the intersection of audio, music and new media – where popular culture, creative practice and self-expression collide.

What this major covers

YEAR 1

Year 1 is the same for everyone – core courses that give you the full picture of media and communications. Then you choose what communications area you want to focus on.

YEAR 2

This is where you get to know the radio business. You'll explore studio practices, programming strategies and the roles that make a station run, and get hands-on with podcasting and the digital platforms shaping audio today. You'll balance this with courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives.

YEAR 3

Now it's time to go live. You'll run an FM and online station with your classmates – creating formats, managing playlists, selling ads, writing features and producing shows. You'll also connect with industry heavyweights like Radio New Zealand, MediaWorks, NZME and The Radio Bureau. You'll also take courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives to round out your degree.

Student radio station and podcasting studios

As a radio student you can practise your skills by running our student radio station. You can check it out in Auckland, Static 88.1 FM or visit static.co.nz

Radio students also go on air from our state-of-the-art radio studios on our online Kiwi music station SOUNZ. To find out more visit sounz.kiwi.nz

You can also work in our state-of-the-art podcasting studios with full camera set-ups to make professional multimedia shows.

Career opportunities

- Announcer/radio journalist
- Podcaster
- Copywriter
- Account executive
- Media planner
- Music director or programmer
- Producer
- Production or studio engineer
- Programme director
- Promotions or station manager
- Record company representative
- Studio engineer
- Web content multimedia specialist



"My time at AUT has provided a strong base for everything I'm continuing to learn. The practical nature of AUT came in so handy when I got into the working world – being able to say I had used Adobe tools and handled a camera at uni was really important for me in my early days. I'm now based in London and currently work as a content creator with Arsenal Football Club. I've been here since the start of the 2025 Premier League season and am really enjoying it. I've always been a massive fan of sport, so having the ability to work in an environment I could only ever dream to be a part of is unreal, let alone being able to express myself creatively on top of that!"

Tane Wolfgramm

Content Creator, Arsenal Football, London
Bachelor of Communication Studies in Radio

Bachelor of Communication Studies Screen Production

Scan this QR code for details about courses, where your study could lead, and stories about our graduates and students.



Screen is where stories become the thing everyone is watching. From binge-worthy series to viral videos, feature films and documentaries, the moving image dominates culture, connection and how we see the world. In this major you'll learn to craft stories for film, TV and online platforms, and master the skills that make ideas come alive; from concept to final cut. Our graduates work on sets and screens around the globe because they leave with more than theory – they leave with real projects and industry-ready experience.

What this major covers

YEAR 1

Year 1 is the same for everyone – core courses that give you the full picture of media and communications. Then you choose what communications area you want to focus on.

YEAR 2

This is where you focus on screen production. You'll take four courses that cover screen theory, studio production, short films and documentaries. You'll learn about working on productions and sets, how to manage schedules and get familiar with the roles that make this industry run. You'll balance this with courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives.

YEAR 3

In Year 3 you work on short films and documentaries, from concept to completion; collaborating on multiple projects and learning what it takes to create narrative and multicamera productions. You'll experience AUT's industry standard facilities and studios including cameras, sound, lighting and post-production tools. You'll also sharpen your screenwriting skills by taking an original idea to final script. This is where creativity and technology meet. You'll also take courses from your second major, minor(s) or electives to round out your degree.

Career opportunities

- Cinematographer
- Content creator
- Director
- Editor
- Media presenter or programmer
- Multimedia specialist
- Producer/production manager
- Researcher
- Sound recordist/sound designer
- Screen writer



"My biggest highlight at AUT was spending long nights in the edit suites alongside my classmates. AUT's hands-on approach is what drew me to the university in the first place, and it's something I'm incredibly grateful for. It was through holding a camera and working in that space that I truly understood the impact of capturing stories visually. My final assessment was a documentary centred on a conversation between a grandmother and her grandson, where she shared her experience of the Dawn Raids. I'll never forget sitting in Academy Cinema and seeing their entire family in the audience as their story was shared with everyone. In that moment, watching the grandmother's reaction, I truly understood just how powerful film can be."

Lealani Siaosi
Development Producer and On-Set Producer, Kevin & Co
Freelance Screenwriter
Bachelor of Communication Studies in Television and Screen Production



1 & 4 You have access to industry standard facilities including a media centre 2 & 3 Our state-of-the-art screen and television studio includes a green screen room 5 Our Virtual Production Studio puts top-end Hollywood production technology in the hands of AUT students 6 As part of the Radio and Audio Media major, you can hone your skills at Static FM – AUT's student radio station



Overview of our postgraduate qualifications



Scan this QR code for more details on postgraduate communication programmes.

Don't just take the next step – take a leap. Postgraduate study at AUT is where you push past limits and turn ambition into action. Our range of postgraduate programmes helps you advance your communications career through research that actually matters. You'll work with academics who are active researchers leading their fields, and our research centres connect you to projects that drive real change.

Postgraduate Certificate in Communication Studies

Bridge into postgraduate study in communication studies with this intensive one-semester programme. If you've got a three-year bachelor's degree in a relevant discipline but don't quite meet the master's entry requirements, this programme is a great option.

Postgraduate Diploma in Communication Studies

Dive into communication leadership or media innovation with this one-year intensive programme. You'll tackle current developments in media and communication studies while building deep expertise in your chosen area.

Master of Communication Studies

Shape the future of media and communication with this master's degree. Specialise in communication leadership or media innovation while tackling courses on current developments in the field. You'll work with experienced supervisors to design and develop your research dissertation – the heart of the programme – building the expertise to lead conversations that matter.

Master of Philosophy

Pursue advanced independent research with this one-year research-only master's degree. You'll work independently, supervised by communication studies staff who know the field inside out. It's also your pathway to doctoral research if that's where you're headed.

Doctor of Philosophy

Lead the conversation with a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) – a thesis-based research degree leading to advanced knowledge in a specialist area. It's the highest qualification universities offer. You'll contribute original thinking to communication studies that meets recognised international standards. Working closely with a supervisor, you'll prepare a research thesis that's then examined by independent experts applying contemporary international standards.



WG building – home to AUT's communication studies programmes



University admission to AUT bachelor's degrees

University admission to AUT bachelor's degrees

If you're a New Zealand citizen or resident – or an international student finishing high school here – you'll need University Entrance to start a bachelor's degree. Some programmes ask for extra steps like certain subjects or an interview, so check what applies to you.

Admission categories

You may be granted University Entrance under:

- NCEA University Entrance
- Ad Eundem Statum admission (at an equivalent level) – this includes Cambridge Assessment International Education (CAIE) and International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB)
- Discretionary Entrance
- Special Admission

To find out more about entry requirements, including entry requirements for international students, scan the QR code on the opposite page.

English language requirements

If you don't have English as your first language, you may have to show evidence of your English language skills. Visit [aut.ac.nz/englishrequirements](https://www.aut.ac.nz/englishrequirements) for details about English language testing and recognised English tests.

International students

Contact us for information regarding studying at AUT if you're not a citizen or permanent resident of New Zealand or Australia, or a citizen of the Cook Islands, Niue or Tokelau islands.

Visit [aut.ac.nz/int/entryrequirements](https://www.aut.ac.nz/int/entryrequirements) for entry requirements for specific countries. If you have any questions, you can contact us at [aut.ac.nz/enquire](https://www.aut.ac.nz/enquire)

UniPrep programme

Want to ease into university life? UniPrep runs for five weeks every January and February, giving you the best possible start. You'll advance your study skills, make friends, join team activities, find support and complete your first university course. Once you're part of our UniPrep whānau, we've got you.

Visit [aut.ac.nz/uniprep](https://www.aut.ac.nz/uniprep)

NCEA university entrance

You must achieve all of the below:

Level 3 (60 credits)	UE Literacy	Numeracy
<p>Within the 60 credits, you need to at least achieve the below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 credits in approved subject 1 14 credits in approved subject 2 14 credits in approved subject 3 18 credits from any Level 3 standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Reading credits (Level 2 or 3) 5 Writing credits (Level 2 or 3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Numeracy credits at Level 1, 2 or 3

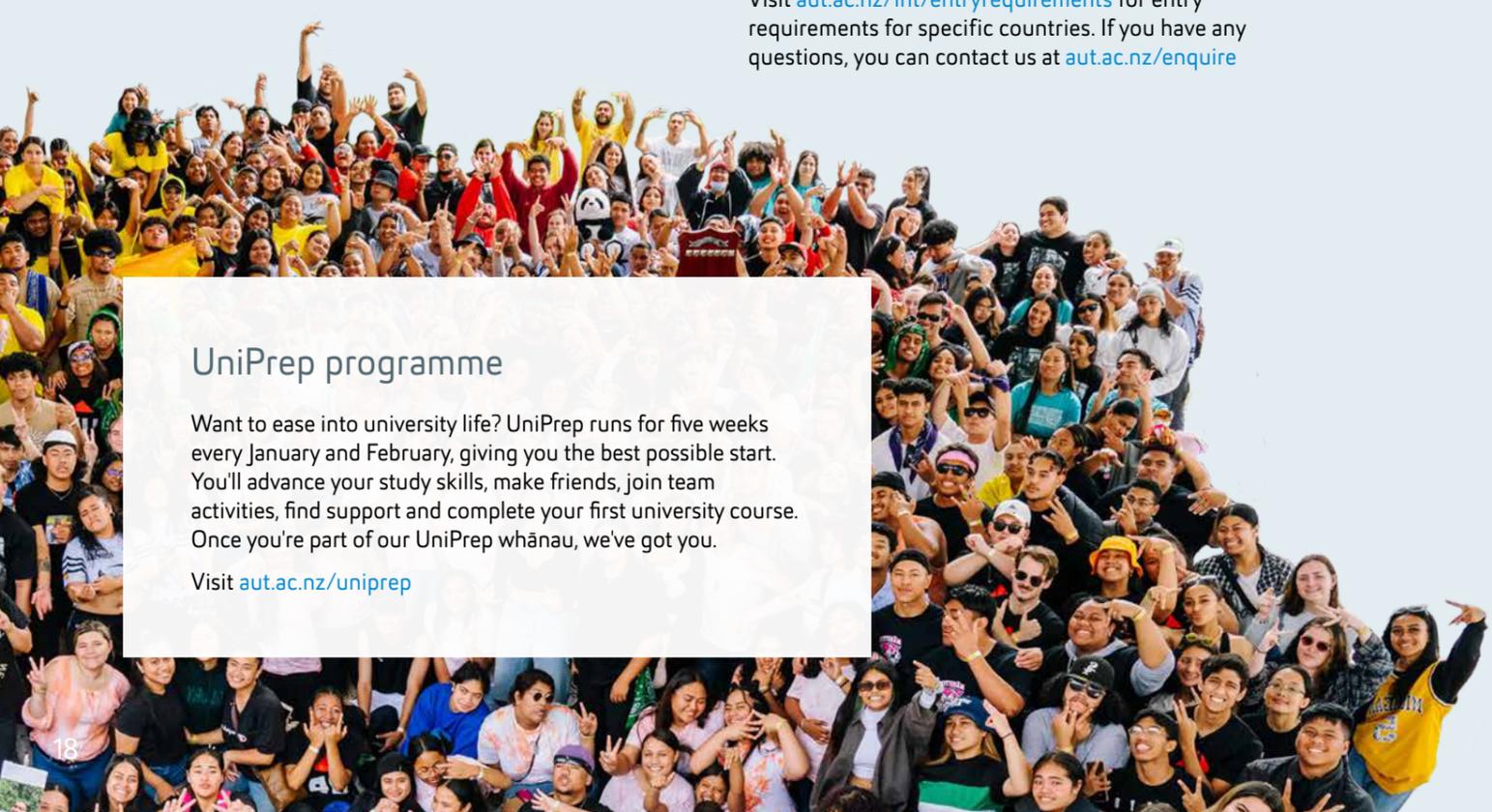
To find out more visit www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/understanding-secondary-quals/university-entrance

This guide is for students in Year 10 or above in 2026. If you're in Year 9 or below, NCEA is changing. You'll work towards the New Zealand Certificate of Education and the New Zealand Advanced Certificate of Education instead.

Getting UE through CAIE or IB? Here's what you will need:

CAIE		
120 points on the New Zealand CAIE Tariff at A or AS level in any subjects that are broadly equivalent to NCEA approved subjects	E or above in English Language, Language and Literature in English or Literature at AS or A level	D or above in IGCSE or GCSE Mathematics, or any mathematics subject passed at AS or A level
D or above in at least 3 different subjects (excluding Thinking Skills)		
IB ¹		
IB Diploma with a minimum 24 points	Literature or language and literature (SL or HL) – IB Group 1, with English as the language	Any mathematics subject – IB Group 5

1. New Zealand residents who have taken IB but have not been awarded the diploma may apply for discretionary entrance.



Ngā utu whakauru, ngā karahipi FEES & SCHOLARSHIPS

Your education is an investment worth making. Here's what you need to know about AUT tuition fees and how to fund your degree – from scholarships and student loans to allowances and financial support when life gets complicated.

To give you an idea of approximate costs, the 2026 tuition fees are shown below (based on full-time study and completing 120 points per year). All fees are in NZ dollars and include GST. The 2027 tuition fees will be advertised on aut.ac.nz/fees as soon as they have been set. You may also need to pay additional fees for course materials or elective courses (check with your faculty if there are additional fees for your programme).

Domestic student tuition fees

Undergraduate programmes

Fee (per year): \$8,839.60–\$9,974.60 (for 120 points)¹
(\$7,618–\$8,753 tuition fees + \$1,221.60 student services levy)

1. Part-time students pay a proportion of the fee based on the number of academic points they are studying.

International student tuition fees

Undergraduate programmes

Fee (per year): \$37,621.60 (for 120 points)
(\$36,400 tuition fees + \$1,221.60 student services levy)

Please note that you must pay your fees in full by the date specified on your fees invoice.

To find out more about fees call **+64 9 921 9779** or **0800 AUT AUT** (0800 288 288).

Student loans and allowances¹

If you're studying full-time as a domestic student, you could get a student loan or allowance through StudyLink to help with your costs. We know sorting finances can feel stressful, so start early – the process can take time. The good news? You don't have to wait until your AUT enrolment is complete.

To find out more call **0800 88 99 00** or visit studylink.govt.nz

Free fees for your university study¹

If you're a domestic student, you might be able to get your final year of full-time study fees-free. To check if you're eligible for fees-free study, visit aut.ac.nz/fees

1. Domestic students only, not available to international students.

Financial assistance

We know life doesn't always go to plan and money worries can make study feel tough. That's why we're here with practical help – from grocery or fuel vouchers to support with those unexpected bills.

StudyLink

Visit studylink.govt.nz for tools, tips and information to help you plan and understand the costs you will have while studying.

Scholarships and awards

Scholarships can cover anything from accommodation costs to full tuition – and they're worth applying for. AUT offers scholarships at every stage of study, including ones specifically for school leavers. Some reward academic achievement, others recognise leadership, cultural contribution, community involvement or sport. Don't assume they're not for you.

For the full list of what's available, application forms and closing dates visit aut.ac.nz/scholarships

Tips for applying

- Start early – deadlines can be months ahead
- Apply for more than one – cast your net wide
- Check you meet the requirements first
- Get someone to review your application
- Tell your story – show who you are, not just your grades

Accommodation

Looking for a place that feels like home? Our student accommodation is modern, secure and just minutes from the AUT City or North Campus. It's so much more than a room – it's a supportive community where you can make friends and settle in, whether you're a first-year or a postgraduate student, or living away from home for the first time.

Visit aut.ac.nz/accommodation



He pēhea te tono

HOW TO APPLY

Below is the step-by-step guide to the application process.
For more information visit aut.ac.nz/apply

1 APPLY EARLY

Places often fill up. Get your application in well before semester starts – earlier is always better.

APPLYING FOR 2027

- Semester 1
– apply by 7 December 2026
- Semester 2
– apply by 3 May 2027

2 COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

- Apply online
- Indicate your programme(s) of choice and major (if known)

International students can also apply using an AUT approved international agent. For a list of AUT registered agents visit aut.ac.nz/international-agents

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

WE ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR APPLICATION

You'll get an acknowledgment email explaining how to track your application. If we need more information, we'll reach out.

WE ASSESS YOUR APPLICATION

- We assess your application to ensure you have met the entry criteria for the programme(s) you are applying for
- We consider your academic history and relevant experience to ensure you can succeed in your programme
- We let you know if your application has been successful

POSSIBLE OUTCOMES

CONFIRMED We would like to offer you a place to study at AUT

PROVISIONAL You have met some of the criteria for entry to your chosen programme of study and we would like to offer you a provisional place to study at AUT. If you don't meet the rest of the requirements, then this offer will be withdrawn

CONDITIONAL You have to meet the conditions and approvals listed in your conditional offer to be able to secure a formal offer of place

DECLINED If you don't meet the entry requirements or all places are taken, we may offer you an alternative programme

3 ACCEPT YOUR OFFER

It's important that you respond as soon as possible, particularly if you've been offered a place in a programme with limited places.

Once you've accepted your offer of place, we'll let you know how to enrol in the courses for your programme, and you can start to get excited about joining AUT.

Ready to apply?
apply.aut.ac.nz

Ētahi atu kōrero
FIND OUT MORE



aut.ac.nz

Need some help?

Visit aut.ac.nz/enquire, ask us your question and we'll call you back. Or phone **0800 AUT AUT** (0800 288 288) to speak to one of our friendly advisors. We can help with anything you need – questions, course counselling sessions, campus tours.

Campuses

City Campus

55 Wellesley Street East, Auckland Central

North Campus

90 Akoranga Drive, Northcote, Auckland

South Campus

640 Great South Road, Manukau, Auckland

Connect with us now:



AUT LIVE

Join us at our open day, AUT LIVE, on the City Campus and see everything AUT has to offer to help you make an educated decision about university study.

aut.ac.nz/live



AUT

0800 AUT AUT (0800 288 288)

Auckland University of Technology

Auckland, New Zealand

aut.ac.nz

Enquire now

aut.ac.nz/enquire

Connect with us now:



This booklet is printed on Satin matt paper which is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) as an FSC Mix paper from well managed forests and other responsible sources.

We print using BIO-inks that contain materials that are based on renewable resources including wood resin (rosin, colophony), and vegetable oils, linseed oil and soybean oil and the printing company is FSC certified.