

What subjects should I study at school?

It can be hard to choose which subjects to study at school but it helps if you think about what job you might want – then you're prepared for any further study. This guide shows helpful subjects to prepare you for our study areas.

If you're unsure about your subject choice, always check with your teachers and career advisors or contact one of our friendly Liaison Advisors (see page 96).

PROGRAMME AREA	HELPFUL SUBJECTS
A	
Accounting	Accounting, Economics, Computing/Digital Technologies, English, Statistics, Business Studies, Mathematics
Apiculture	Agriculture and Horticulture, Science, Biology, English, Mathematics
Arboriculture	Agriculture and Horticulture, Science, Biology, English, Mathematics
Architectural Studies	Design, Graphics/Design and Visual Communication, Construction and Mechanical Technologies, Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Media Studies, Painting, Photography, Physics, Printmaking, Science, Technology
Art	Art, History of Art, Photography, Painting, Printmaking, Media Studies, Design, Metal Work, Woodwork, Computing/Digital Technologies, Graphics/Design and Visual Communication, Sculpture, Textiles
Automotive Engineering	Mathematics, English, Construction and Mechanical Technologies, Science, Technology, Graphics/Design and Visual Communication
Avalanche Risk Management and Snowsport Instruction [^]	Physical Education, Science, Health, Geography, Social Studies, English
B	
Beauty Therapy	Biology, Chemistry, English, Physical Education, Health, Science
Bicycle Mechanics [^]	Mathematics, Physics, English, Physical Education
Brewing [^]	Chemistry, Mathematics
Business/Applied Management	Economics, Tourism, Media Studies, Computing/Digital Technologies, Accounting, Social Studies, English, Business Studies
C	
Carpentry	Mathematics, English, Construction and Mechanical Technologies, Technology
Construction Management/Quantity Surveying	Mathematics, English, Physics, Science, Digital Technologies, Economics, Accounting, Statistics, Construction and Mechanical Technologies, Technology
Cookery	Any subject is great, especially those that show that you have a proactive attitude and can work in a team.
Culinary Arts	English-rich subjects*, Mathematics, Food-related subjects, Graphics/Design and Visual Communication, Technology, Visual Art/Photography
D	
Design (Communication, Fashion and Product)	Design, Art, Graphics/Design and Visual Communication, Photography, Painting, Printmaking, Media Studies, Technology, Computing/Digital Technologies, History of Art, Sculpture, Textiles
Digital Media and Photography	Photography, Computing/Digital Technologies, Art, Graphics/Design and Visual Communication, Media Studies, Drama, Creative Writing
E	
Early Childhood Education	Biology, Te Re Māori, English, Health
Electrical and Mechanical Trades	Mathematics, English, Construction and Mechanical Technologies, Science, Technology, Graphics/Design and Visual Communication
Engineering Technology (Civil, Mechanical, Electrical)	Mathematics, Calculus, Algebra, Physics, Chemistry, Construction and Mechanical Technologies, Graphics/Design and Visual Communication, Digital Technologies, English, Science, Technology New Zealand Diploma in Engineering essential subject: Mathematics (Level 2) Bachelor of Engineering Technology essential subject: Calculus and Physics (Level 3)
F	
Farming [^]	Agriculture and Horticulture, Science, Economics, Mathematics

H	
Hairdressing	English, Health, Science, Mathematics, Art
Horticulture	Agriculture and Horticulture, Science, Biology, English, Mathematics
Hospitality – Food and Beverage Service	Any subject is great, especially those that show that you have a proactive attitude and can work in a team.
Hospitality Management	English-rich subjects*, Mathematics, Food-related subjects, Business Studies
Human and Community Services	Te Reo Māori, Social Studies, Health, History, English
I	
Information Technology	Graphics/Design and Visual Communication, Computing/Digital Technologies, Physics, Statistics, Science, Mathematics, Calculus
L	
Leadership for Change	Any subjects which you are passionate about are great, especially those that are in an area which is connected with a change you want to make (plus any community-based experiences which show you stepping up as a leader and making a difference).
M	
Massage Therapy	Biology, Chemistry, Physical Education, Social Studies, Health, Te Reo Māori, English
Midwifery	Biology, Chemistry, English, Statistics, Health, Te Reo Māori, Social Studies, History, Geography Bachelor of Midwifery essential subjects: Biology/Chemistry and English/English-rich subject (Level 3)
N	
Nursing	Biology, Chemistry, English, Physical Education, Health, Te Reo Māori, Geography, History, Classics, History of Art, Media Studies, Religious Studies Bachelor of Nursing essential subjects: Biology/Chemistry and English/English-rich subject (Level 3)
O	
Occupational Therapy	Biology, Physical Education, Social Studies, Health, Te Reo Māori, Statistics, English
Outdoor Adventure [^]	Physical Education, Science, Health, Geography, Social Studies, English
P	
Plumbing	Mathematics, English, Construction and Mechanical Technologies, Science, Technology, Graphics/Design and Visual Communication
S	
Sport, Exercise and Health	Physical Education, Science, Health, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Geography, Statistics, Social Studies, English
Sports Turf Management [^]	Science, Agriculture and Horticulture, Engineering, Mathematics, English, Computing, Mechanics (Youth Guarantee or Trades Academy), Gateway, Unit 1153 Sports Turf Machinery and Equipment (Level 3)
Stonemasonry [^]	Mathematics, English, Construction and Mechanical Technologies, Technology
T	
Tourism	Tourism, Geography, Media Studies, Languages, English, Social Studies
V	
Veterinary Nursing/Animal Health	Science, Biology, Health, Computing, English, Mathematics

[^] Only offered in Central Otago.

* English-rich subjects include: Classical Studies, English, Geography, History, History of Art, Media Studies.

Important note: For full entry criteria, including the required number of NCEA credits for each qualification, please check each programme information sheet on our website. Visit op.ac.nz

Approved subjects for degree entrance

A: Accounting, Agriculture and Horticulture

B: Biology, Business Studies

C: Calculus, Chemistry, Chinese, Classical Studies, Construction and Mechanical Technologies, Cook Islands Māori

D: Dance, Design, Design and Visual Communication, Digital Technologies, Drama

E: Earth and Space Science, Economics, Education for Sustainability, English

F: French

G: Geography, German

H: Health Education, History, History of Art, Home Economics

I: Indonesian

J: Japanese

K: Korean

L: Latin

M: Mathematics, Media Studies, Music Studies

P: Painting, Photography, Physical Education, Physics, Printmaking, Processing Technologies

R: Religious Studies

S: Samoan, Science, Sculpture, Spanish, Social Studies, Statistics

T: Technology, Te Reo Māori, Te Reo Rangatira, Tongan