

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EAU CLAIRE

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Study Abroad



USAC NEW ZEALAND
FALL 2019

Program Guide

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CONGRATULATIONS on being accepted to the USAC New Zealand program through the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. Living and studying in a foreign culture is both an exciting and a challenging experience. Past participants of study abroad report that the many advantages of international study include:

Building upon existing foreign language skills
Gaining new perspectives on a chosen academic field
Increasing understanding of different cultures
Enhancing personal development
Developing different perspectives on U.S. culture
Gaining self-confidence and independence
Learning skills for the future international job market

It is up to you to determine how you can best benefit from these possible advantages. This is your adventure!

You will receive country and site-specific orientation materials directly from USAC and your host university. This program guide is to be used together with the general UW-Eau Claire Study Abroad Handbook. The handbook has information that is valid for all UW-Eau Claire study abroad programs. Both the guide and the Handbook are designed to complement the USAC materials, study abroad orientation, and your individual pre-departure preparations.

Basic questions only you can answer include:

- 1) What are YOUR goals for this experience? Common goals of students abroad include advancement in a future profession; desire to expand personal and academic horizons; need for a change; and wish to challenge oneself with immersion in a new culture.
- 2) Given the way the program is set up, how can you best prepare to meet your goals? For example, if one of your goals is truly being immersed in the host country's language and culture, yet you have the option of taking classes with all international students, how can you ensure that you get out and interact with the local population?

The information in this guide was current at the time of printing, though changes may occur at any time.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Program

The Massey University, New Zealand program is run through University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC). UW-Eau Claire has partnered with USAC to provide an array of program opportunities, including New Zealand. You will be taking classes at Massey University along with other U.S. students, international students, and local New Zealand students.

You may be the only UW-Eau Claire student going to a particular location in your semester, although it is likely that there will be other international students from other U.S. institutions and around the world.

The Location

Massey University is composed of three different campuses in three different cities: Auckland, Palmerston North, and Wellington.

The **Albany Campus**, located in Auckland, is New Zealand's newest and most cutting-edge university. This campus is about 20 minutes from Auckland's city center and a five-minute drive from the beaches. The Albany Campus is home to about 7,000 students.

Auckland is New Zealand's largest and most multicultural city with more than 1.5 million people. It has repeatedly been ranked one of the best places in the world to live because of its sophisticated urban environment, great climate, and leisure opportunities. Auckland is known as the "city of sails" because it is surrounded by

water and hundreds of sailboats and yachts sail the area.

The **Manawatu Campus** is located in Palmerston North (or Palmy as the locals call it) and is the original Massey Campus. You will notice the history and park-like setting of campus. Manawatu is home to more than 8,000 students and is a premier institution for life sciences, agriculture, horticulture, etc.

Palmerston North is New Zealand's sixth largest city with about 80,000 residents. Palmerston North has the lowest cost of living of any university city in all of New Zealand. A nickname of the city is "student city" because much of the population is engaged in study. You will have easy access to the outdoors and one of the most popular student clubs is the Massey Alpine Club.

The **Wellington Campus** is located in Wellington and is known as the "creative campus." At Wellington, you will be challenged to think differently and be creative. Campus is located in the heart of Wellington's art and cultural district and has about 3,500 students.

Wellington is home to the New Zealand government as well as the New Zealand Stock Exchange, Reserve Bank, Museum of New Zealand, the Royal New Zealand Ballet, etc. Wellington is known for being a magnet for creative and innovative people and has many cafes, boutiques and fun things to do. Wellington has around 200,000 residents. It is also known as the windiest city in the world.

The University

Massey is one of New Zealand's largest universities. Massey continues to be ranked in the top three universities of New Zealand and it has played a key role in the development of New Zealand. Each campus is unique in its own way and one campus may be a better academic fit than the other. Studying at Massey is going to be the perfect way to experience the kiwi lifestyle!

Academic Calendar

Program dates for Fall 2019 are still tentative. Exact program dates will be confirmed in late October or early November.

Here is a tentative calendar:

Depart U.S.	July 5 (dates maybe vary)
Arrive in New Zealand	July 7 (move-in dates vary)
Orientation (dates differ by campus)	July 10
First Day of Class	July 15
Classes end	October 18
Study Period	October 22-25
Exam Period	October 29- November 13
First day to depart	Depends on your last day of exams. November 17 is the last day of housing contracts

****These dates are tentative, and you should not book airfare until you have your official acceptance from Massey. You will not know your exam schedule**

until after you arrive, and you must stay until your last final.

ACADEMICS

There is additional information on maintaining program eligibility, as well as topics such as registration, class attendance, credits and course load, grades, transcripts, and accessing the UW-Eau Claire library while abroad in your Study Abroad Handbook.

New Zealand Terminology

Massey University uses terminology that you may not be used to. See the chart below to help you navigate the new words:

Familiar term	New Zealand term
Major	Programme
College	College
Syllabus	Course Profile
Online Course	Distance Paper
Class Schedule	Timetable
Course Load	Study Plan

Classes

Introductory classes are at the 100-level, increasing to the 200-level and 300-level. 400 level and up is considered master's level and you won't be able to enroll in those. When looking at classes, each class will have a six-digit code to distinguish the subject and level (example: 152.261 where '152' denotes the subject is Management, and the '2' in '261' shows it is a 200-level).

Your classes will be comprised of lectures and tutorials. Lectures are usually held with a larger number of students and your tutorials will consist of fewer students and allow you a chance to ask more in-depth questions. Lectures will have very little

interaction between the student and professor, so you will want to be sure you attend the tutorials.

Your classes will have various assignments, essays, labs, etc. throughout the semester, as well as a three-hour final exam. Your final exam is usually 40-60% of your final grade.

Credits and Course Load

The standard Massey class is 15 credits, which transfers back to UW-Eau Claire as 3 credits. You will take four classes, which will transfer back as 12 UW-Eau Claire credits.

You are required to take at least three internal (in person) classes, and if necessary, you may take your fourth class external (online). All classes need to be based at one campus. It is not possible to take classes from a variety of locations.

Registration at Massey

On your application directly to Massey, you listed courses that you were interested in taking. Massey will pre-enroll you into courses. Once you are fully accepted by Massey, you will receive an email from them with information on how to log in and view your Massey portal. Once you are logged-in, you will be able to view which courses were approved and add/drop courses as needed. Even if you were approved for two courses, you might not be able to take both due to timetable conflicts. You should always have alternative courses in mind.

Students attending in the spring will be able to log in in October once you have received your Massey Portal log-in and have returned your Offer of Place. Students attending in the fall will be able to log in

and register as soon as you have your login details from Massey. Once you return your Offer of Place to Massey, you'll have access to an online Inbound Welcome Guide that will give you instructions on how to add/drop courses.

Academic System

The New Zealand education system is modeled after the British system, which means that there is a very strong emphasis on individual, self-directed study. You may notice that the amount of classroom contact time is less than what you are used to in the U.S. There is also a greater emphasis on academic specialization rather than devoting your studies to general studies.

In order to be successful, you will need to take initiative to learn the material and participate in class. For example, you are expected to read and print the syllabus BEFORE the first-class meeting. There may even be some expected reading before the first day. If you notice yourself struggling in this learning environment, there is a tutoring center on each campus and they can provide support and review your work. Again, it will be your responsibility to seek out assistance.

Also, in the New Zealand system, the lecturer, who teaches the class, is not the person who evaluates your exams. In order to avoid any kind of personal bias, there is a separate group of professors who do the formal evaluation of exams.

Registration at UW-Eau Claire

All you need to do for registration at UW-Eau Claire is sign the online Payment Plan

Agreement (PPA) for the term during which you will be abroad. You will then be registered by the CIE for your term abroad under a placeholder course number (INTA) but NOT the specific courses you indicated on your ISEP application. This "blanket registration" will appear on your billing statements and will be replaced by specific courses once your transcript from Massey arrives. You do not need to complete any other registration at UW-Eau Claire.

Course Equivalencies

You can find a list of previously established UW-Eau Claire course equivalencies for your [program site](#) and clicking on the Academics Page. The academics page will have information for how to use the Transfer Wizard to determine equivalencies.

If a course appears on the list for your program, the appropriate UW-Eau Claire department chair has already reviewed it, and the equivalency listed is what you will receive upon successful completion of the course. (Please note that catalog changes at either university may change a previously established equivalency. Examples of such changes would be a change in course title, number or description, one institution dropping the course from their catalog, etc.)

If a course doesn't appear, that means it hasn't been evaluated yet but can be if you inform the study abroad coordinator, Jenna (kroschjm@uwec.edu).

Keep in mind that this is a historical record of past course equivalencies. **There is no guarantee that the same courses will be offered in the future, or that they will be offered during the term you are abroad.**

Reporting your Registration

As soon as you are registered for classes abroad, **log in to your BlugoldsAbroad account and complete the Course**

Descriptions questionnaire. You will find it at <https://studyabroad.apps.uwec.edu/>. Choose LOGIN from the top toolbar and log in with your UW-Eau Claire username and password. You will need the:

- course title,
- course number,
- description (translated into English, if possible), and
- number of credits

Grades

Below you will find the grade conversion for Massey University.

Massey grading system	UWEC
equivalent	
A+, A, A- First Class Pass	A
B+, B, B- Second Class Pass	B
C+, C, C- Pass	C
P Ungraded Pass	CR
AEG Aegrotat Pass	IN
F Ungraded Fail	F
D Fail	F
E Low Fail	F
NF Not Finalized (grade not available yet)	
NR	
DNC Did Not Complete	F
WD Withdrew from the paper	W

Keep in mind that in the New Zealand system, students start from zero and build up to earn their grade. Receiving C's is very common and obtaining all A's is almost unheard of.

Note that UW-Eau Claire students abroad are not allowed to take classes pass/fail,

and the grades from Massey will be figured into your UW-Eau Claire GPA.

Transcripts

A Massey transcript will be sent to USAC, and then to UW-Eau Claire, roughly two months after the end of the semester. Because this is later than the end of the UW-Eau Claire semester, your MyBlugold CampS account will initially indicate "NR" (not reported). This will be changed once the transcript arrives. **If you are a senior studying abroad for your last semester, you will need to delay your graduation by one semester following your return from New Zealand.**

MONEY MATTERS

Information about how payments are made to UW-Eau Claire, when they are due, the UW-Eau Claire withdrawal/refund deadlines, financial aid, scholarships, budgeting and ways to bring money abroad is in your Study Abroad Handbook.

Cost Estimate

You can find the most current cost estimate for your program, in easily printable format, on the [CIE New Zealand webpage](#). Be sure you are looking at the correct term. Remember that the cost estimate includes what you pay to UW-Eau Claire, what you pay to USAC, and what you pay directly to Massey and other vendors.

USAC Payments & Refund Policy

If you have any questions about paying your optional tour fees, please contact Shamberli Hicks in the USAC Accounting Office. You can reach her by telephone at 1-

866-404-USAC (8722) or e-mail at shamberli.hicks@usac.edu. You can pay with credit card, check, or money order.

In addition to the UW-Eau Claire refund policy outlined in the "Money Matters" section of the Study Abroad Handbook, USAC has its own financial policies related to payment, cancellations, and changes. You can learn more about the withdrawal deadlines and penalties by referring to your copies of the USAC Program Agreement and Program Fee & Options on your USAC Gateway account.

Currency Exchange

The currency of New Zealand is the New Zealand dollar (NZD). The exchange rate as of January 2019 was \$1 NZD = \$.68166 USD. You can find current exchange rates at <http://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/>. All costs are estimated and may change due to exchange rate fluctuations.

Cost of Living in New Zealand

In general, you will find prices to be more expensive than in the U.S. due to New Zealand having to import almost everything.

Goods and service tax (GST) is a 15% tax added to most goods and services in New Zealand, including some imported items.

Credit Cards

Visa and MasterCard are the most commonly accepted credit cards abroad. Cards are widely accepted in New Zealand and cash is becoming less and less preferred.

Debit Cards

Debit cards are usually the best option for withdrawing money while abroad. Be sure you know the 4-digit pin for your card and ask your bank what the withdrawal fees are. You may also want to know your daily limit. Your bank may charge transaction fees for each foreign transaction, so you should try to limit the frequency of your ATM withdrawals. Your bank may have global partners that allow you to withdraw for fewer fees, so take note if any banks are partners with your bank. ATMs are plentiful in New Zealand, so you should not have a problem accessing one.

Traveler's Checks

Traveler's checks are increasingly rare and difficult to use. They generally must be cashed at a major bank, although in some countries, post offices also offer this service. You must have your passport with you. Most banks charge a fee for cashing the checks; it can vary widely. Before cashing a check, **ASK** what the fee is.

Make sure you record your check numbers and keep the numbers separate from the checks, in case you need to get them replaced.

Personal Travel

The amount spent on personal travel varies greatly from student to student. Consider both your budget and your priorities. Students who want to be involved in their host community generally spend less time (and money) traveling. Others travel every weekend with correspondingly high costs and fewer close connections in their new home.

Scholarships

USAC offers a variety of scholarships for students. To see more information, visit [USAC's Scholarship website](#). You will have optional scholarship applications applied to your USAC Gateway account when they are open. Students are able to apply for all scholarships they are eligible for and can be awarded more than one scholarship.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Additional information on these issues, as well as information on CISI insurance, is included in the Health Issues and Safety Abroad sections of your Study Abroad Handbook.

New Zealand Medical Insurance

Massey University requires that all international students have StudentSafe/Allianz insurance. This is included in your USAC program fees.

At this time, CISI has not been approved as an alternative insurance policy, so StudentSafe must also be purchased.

Immunizations

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) list recommendations on vaccinations by country on their Web site: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list>. There are **very few required vaccinations anywhere in the world for travelers**. Requirements can only be placed by the government of a particular country, and because such requirements often discourage tourism, governments are reluctant to establish them. However, CDC recommendations should be taken very seriously. Since many of the recommendations depend on the type of

travel you anticipate doing, or the length of time you are staying, you need to consult with a doctor to determine what is best for your individual situation.

UW-Eau Claire's Student Health Services offers immunizations (IG, tetanus, Hepatitis B, etc.) and health education on international travel. There is a charge for these services. Contact Student Health Services at (715) 836-5360.

Medical Facilities and Medications

Quality medical care is widely found in New Zealand. The access to care is available in all Massey University locations. If you are traveling in the rural areas, access to care may be more limited.

Each Massey campus has [health care and counseling facilities](#) that students are able to use. Counseling services are available at every location.

Medications are also readily available, although the name of the medicine may be different than in the U.S.

Emergency Contacts

General emergency procedures are described in the Study Abroad Handbook and staff are available at your host site or USAC if difficulties arise. You will receive emergency contact card at orientation; be sure to keep it in your wallet at all times. This information is also on the Contact Names and Addresses page of this guide.

911 Equivalent in New Zealand

If you are in an emergency situation in New Zealand, you will need to know how to reach the local police, fire, or ambulance services. The local equivalent to the 911

emergency line **in New Zealand is 111**. We suggest you save this number in your cell phone in case you need to use it quickly.

The U.S. State Department also provides a list of [911 numbers abroad](#). Plan ahead and research numbers before you go.

Safety in New Zealand

Safety in New Zealand, specifically at the location you study, will be discussed at your on-site orientation in New Zealand. For specific information on crime and road safety, see the [New Zealand Consular Information Sheet](#). If you are a crime victim or if you are arrested abroad, get in touch with the nearest U.S. consulate or embassy. U.S. consular offices will do what they can to help U.S. citizens in serious legal, medical, or financial difficulties. They can often direct you to a reliable doctor or clinic, help you contact family, or re-issue your passport.

Left Side of Road

New Zealand drives on the left side of the road, which can often be an adjustment to students. When crossing the road, be sure to look both ways before stepping out. We do not encourage students to drive while on the program, but if you choose to drive, please note that it is at your own risk and Massey University, USAC and UWEC cannot be held liable.

Hiking

If you decide to hike, please make sure you hike with a buddy and let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return. While hiking, be aware of the weather as it can turn very quickly.

High-Risk Activities

New Zealand is known for offering some high-risk activities such as parasailing, hang gliding, bungee jumping, white water rafting, etc. Should you choose to participate in any high-risk activity, please note that your CISI insurance will not cover any injuries/liabilities that result in this activity. Participating is at your own risk.

Earthquakes

The majority of New Zealand is vulnerable to earthquakes, and therefore potential tsunamis. This release of energy in earthquakes sometimes results in tsunamis.

During an earthquake:

- Stay calm
- Do not use an elevator or try to evacuate the building
- Distance yourself from glass, bookcases, and partitions that could fall
- If you are next to a door, open it
- If it is not possible to access a secure area, try to find a corner or a firm counter under which to take shelter and cover your head
- Do not attempt to rescue any objects
- Remain alert to gas leaks, pipe breaks, and short circuits
- Do not leave the premises immediately; wait until the earthquake stops

After an earthquake:

- Note that after an earthquake, there will be aftershocks
- Identify evacuation routes; follow evacuation signs placed visibly in each area

- Proceed without running down hallways, stairs, and patios and head to the outside of the building
- Never use the elevator
- Do not light matches, candles, or other objects that create the risk of fire or explosion
- Pay attention to obstacles
- When leaving the building, use caution as there could be falling objects
- After evacuation, do not re-enter the building until receiving express permission from university authorities

Always follow the recommendations and instructions given by local law enforcement and the campus community.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Passport information is included in your Study Abroad Handbook.

Visa

A visa is official permission to visit a country and is granted by the government of that country.

U.S. citizens, who want to study in New Zealand need to obtain a student visa prior to arrival in New Zealand. You will need to make an appointment with your study abroad coordinator, Jenna (kroschjm@uwec.edu), after UW-Eau Claire's orientation to learn more about the visa application (if applicable).

If you plan to travel in countries other than your host country while you are abroad, you should verify visa requirements for each

country by contacting the nearest consulate or your travel agency.

PACKING TIPS

In addition to the general packing information in your Study Abroad Handbook, you should know the following about New Zealand.

Clothing and Climate

Keep in mind that since New Zealand is in the Southern Hemisphere, the seasons are opposite those in the United States. If you are arriving to New Zealand in February, it will be late summer. If you are arriving in July, it will be the middle of winter. It can be quite rainy in New Zealand in the spring. The North Island (where all locations are) has fairly moderate weather, whereas the South Island can have more extreme conditions.

Summer (December – February) in New Zealand is moderate to hot. In most places you will want to wear shorts, t-shirts, tank tops, dresses, etc. You may need a lighter jacket at night or if you go into the mountains.

Fall (March – May) in New Zealand is a little cooler than summer, but still wonderful. You will want light pants or shorts, some t-shirts, and longer sleeved shirts. As it begins to cool off, you will want sweaters and warmer pants.

Winter (June – August) in New Zealand brings snow to the South Island and rain to the North Island. You will want jeans, long-sleeve shirts, sweaters, thermals (if going into mountains), thick gloves, and hats.

Spring (September – November) in New Zealand can be cold, frosty, but also clear and sunny. You will want to be prepared for all weather scenarios. Jeans and items that can be layered are the best options.

Always keep in mind that New Zealand weather can change in a matter of minutes. If you are going hiking or camping, be sure to be prepared for different weather situations.

What to Pack

Your peer advisor will give you a packing list at the second group meeting later in the semester prior to departure.

GETTING TO NEW ZEALAND

Travel Arrangements

It is your responsibility to make travel arrangements to your host site. There is information on student-oriented travel agencies, instructions for booking a flight, and other travel information in the Study Abroad Handbook.

On your USAC Gateway account, you can also find a Flight Guide that has helpful information for New Zealand.

It is strongly recommended that you book a round trip airfare, as you will need to show proof that you are exiting New Zealand at the end of the semester when you enter New Zealand. If you don't purchase a round trip airfare ticket, then you must have documentation that supports you have enough funds to book a return ticket. There have been cases where students aren't

allowed to board their international flights, to New Zealand, without a round-trip ticket.

Getting to New Zealand

Most international flights will first land in Auckland.

The fastest and easiest way to get to Palmerston North is by a one-hour flight from Auckland domestic airport, flying with Air New Zealand. If you don't want to fly to Palmerston North, you can take a train or bus from Auckland, but this can take 8-12 hours.

The fastest and easiest way to get to Wellington is by a one-hour flight from the Auckland domestic airport. Alternatively, you can take a train or bus from Auckland, but this can take 10-14 hours.

If you decide to fly to Palmerston North or Wellington, be sure you verify which airports you land into/depart out of in New Zealand. If you need to switch airports, be sure to give yourself enough time to go through customs, obtain your bags, and make your way to the other airport.

Airport Pickup Service

Airport pickup is available, but for a pickup to be guaranteed, you must complete and return an arrival collection form to Massey University at least two weeks prior to your arrival in New Zealand. In the USAC Flight Guide (on your Gateway Account), there is a link for requesting the pickup service. Your pickup will be either at the destination airport, bus or train station.

Auckland students: Students can request airport collection. Students will be met by a

shuttle and taken to their accommodations. There is a \$75 NZD fee for this and you pay the shuttle driver.

Palmerston North Students: Students can request to be picked up at the airport, train or bus station in Palmerston North. This service is free of charge. You can only request a pickup on the dates that are advertised, and it is only available between 8am-8pm. You will be notified of the dates after your acceptance.

Wellington Students: Students can request an airport, train or bus station pickup in Wellington. This service is free of charge if you are living at The Cube. The free pickup service isn't available after the start of the orientation program.

SETTLING IN

Orientation

Orientations will vary by Massey University site, but all locations will have an orientation and they are mandatory. If you miss any or all of orientation, you will be assessed a \$200 fee, from USAC. During your orientation you will have a chance to change courses that you were pre-enrolled in, meet other international students, and learn more about the campus, community, and New Zealand.

Students attending Palmerston North MUST register for orientation. Information will be given to students when they're accepted.

Housing

It is your responsibility to secure your housing at Massey University. Please follow all instructions that Massey University

provides you once you are accepted into the program. **Housing is on a first come-first serve basis so failure to apply for housing in a timely manner could result in you having to find your own housing off campus.** All housing fees will be paid directly to Massey University.

All university housing is within walking distance from each campus. In Auckland, housing is on campus. In Palmerston North, housing will be on or very close to campus (2-10 minutes' walk). Housing in Wellington is usually off campus but between 5-10 minutes' walk.

You will have a single room in a shared apartment. You may have between 3-5 roommates. Please note that roommates are co-ed and can be other international students as well as New Zealand students at Massey University. Students who live in the apartments are typically first year students (18-19 years old), as it is very common for students to move off campus after their first year.

What's Included

You may need to provide your own towels. Bedding and linen can be provided at each location if requested in advance. Bedding packs are mandatory at The Cube (Wellington Campus). There are a lot of inexpensive places to purchase linens when you arrive if you don't wish to purchase a linen packet.

Meals

Some locations may offer a meal plan, but not all will. If you'd prefer housing with a meal plan, look for "catered." Options listed as "self-catered" means that there isn't a

meal plan and you will cook your own meals. Palmerston North and Auckland will have catered options in addition to self-catered, but Wellington only has self-catered options.

Catered halls are not similar to the catered halls you are familiar with at UW-Eau Claire. Catered halls in New Zealand tend to be open for fewer hours and offer a smaller choice of food options. Most students will be on self-catered plans. Your apartment will have the facilities to cook your own meals, but you will need to supply your own utensils/cooking supplies. Students are advised to wait until they arrive before they purchase cooking materials, as your roommate might already have supplies they're willing to share. Often times, many students enjoy self-catered as it allows you to save money and eat what you like, when you would like.

Getting Involved

One of the keys to a successful study abroad experience is connecting with people in your host country. Because you may be taking classes with other international students, it is easy to hang out just with them – or even just with the other U.S. Americans you meet. Make an effort to meet and do things with students from your host country.

Keep in mind that the students in your host country already have an established group of friends. You will have to take the first step, and often the second and third, to become part of the group, but it is well worth the effort.

Athletic Involvement

Each Massey Campus has a gym that you are allowed to join. There is a membership fee if you decide to join.

New Zealand's landscape makes it one of the best outdoor playgrounds in the world. There will be hiking for all fitness levels. You can take a quick bush walk or go on one of the many "Great Walks." Some walks may even lead you to sites where the *Lord of the Rings* was filmed. Be sure to hike with a buddy and let someone know when you leave and plan to return.

Student Groups

Each Massey Campus also has a Student Association that provides students the chance to join clubs or other sporting clubs. You will find out more information about this during orientation in New Zealand.

Volunteering

If you want to get to know the local community even better, you should consider volunteering. During your Massey University orientation, they will talk about ways you can volunteer.

COMMUNICATION

Information on accessing/forwarding your UW-Eau Claire email address and on using your computer for international phone calls (Skype) is in your Study Abroad Handbook.

Time Difference

The local time in New Zealand is 17 hours ahead of Eau Claire. For example, when it is Wednesday at 2:00pm in Eau Claire, it is Thursday at 7:00am in New Zealand.

Internet Access

There are computer labs across campus that you will have access to. If you want to bring a laptop, you will have internet connection available to you in your housing, for an extra fee. There will be free Wi-Fi hotspots around campus, and town. If you bring your own laptop, be sure to exercise caution with it. Some past students have obtained personal liability insurance for protecting their valuable, but that is at your own discretion.

Email

On campus, you will have access to free Internet. You will be given a Massey username and email account, so be sure to forward that to an email account that you check frequently.

Snail Mail

International airmail typically takes 7-10 days (or longer) to reach most locations. It is not recommended to send or receive anything of real value, as customs may put a hefty customs fee on it. Know that anything you send or receive is subject to being searched by customs.

Telephone Information

From the U.S. to your host country: First dial 011, which is the international dialing code. Next, you must dial the country code for your host country. Country codes can be found in the front of phone books or online at <http://www.countrycallingcodes.com/>. Then you dial the rest of the number.

From your host country to the U.S.: To phone home while you are abroad using a calling card or calling collect, you must dial

an access code to get a U.S. operator. Note that the country code for the U.S. is "1."

You may not have land line phones in your housing. You can use pay phones or buy cell phones to make phone calls.

Cell Phones

Cell phones are just as common in New Zealand as they are in the U.S. If you want to bring your U.S. cellphone, **you will need to check with your carrier to see if there are international plans and to have your phone unlocked.** Past students have brought their smartphones but turned off the data and only used their phones when they were connected to Wi-Fi. If you are able to have your phone unlocked, you can then purchase a New Zealand SIM card and still use your U.S. phone.

Cell phones are affordable and can also be purchased once you arrive. Most plans allow for pay-as-you-go so it can be more affordable and easier to do this.

Skype/Facebook Chat/iMessage

Past students recommend Skype, Facebook chat, or iMessage for keeping in touch with friends and family. Skype is free to download and allows you to make calls through the Internet (using a computer or smartphone). You can use Skype to call landlines for a small per-minute fee, or you can talk for free with someone using Skype on their own computer or device.

New Zealand Slang/Maori Words

Even though you are studying abroad in an English-speaking country, there are many differences you will notice. One difference is

the slang. Here are some common words you may hear:

- Kiwi: referring to a New Zealander, or the country's national bird. For the fruit, they say kiwifruit
- Sweet as – an expression meaning it was really good – "my day was sweet as"
- Jandals: flip flops
- Dairy: convenience store, corner store
- Macca's: McDonalds
- Togs: swimsuit
- Bonnet & boot: Hood & trunk of a car
- Bugged: very tired
- Fizzy drink: soda
- Hot chips: French fries
- Chocka Block: crowded/busy
- Jumper: sweatshirt
- Not even: no way/that's not true
- A feed: a meal
- Heaps: a lot/very
- Zed – the letter Z (in the US we pronounce it Zee; in New Zealand it is Zed (like Ted))
- Tramping - hiking
- Whittakers – New Zealand for chocolate. It's a local brand
- L&P: Lemon and Paeroa, a popular soft drink you must try!
- Pineapple lumps – chocolate coated lumps of pineapple flavoured confection (a must try!)

Maori Words:

- Aotearoa – New Zealand (literally means long white cloud)
- Kia ora – hello
- Ke te pai – I'm good
- Waka – canoe but commonly used to describe any moving vehicle

- Aroha – love
- Haka – war dance with actions
- Iwi – tribe
- Pounamu – greenstone

HISTORY

New Zealand has a rich history for being such a small country at the bottom of the South Pacific. The following information is from the [New Zealand Now](#).

First Settlers

The first ancestors of New Zealand are the Maori people who are said to have arrived between 1200-1300 AD. They discovered New Zealand as they explored the Pacific Ocean, navigating by the ocean currents and wind and stars. The term Maori didn't exist until the Europeans arrived.

It wasn't until 1642 when the first Europeans (the Dutch) started to arrive. Then it was 127 years before another European came to New Zealand, in 1769. This was James Cook. After that, European whalers and sealers visited regularly and then traders became to come. In 1830, the British felt pressured to end the lawlessness of the country and stop France from making New Zealand a colony.

Treaty of Waitangi

"On February 6, 1840, William Hobson, New Zealand's first governor, invited Maori chiefs to sign a treaty with the British crown. The treaty was taken all around the country and more than 500 chiefs signed the treaty.

The treaty governs that the relationship between the Maori and everyone is protected. This is done by:

- Accepting that Maori iwi (tribes) have the right to organize themselves, protect their way of life and to control the resources they own
- Requiring the government to act reasonably and in good faith towards Maori
- Making the government responsible for helping to address grievances
- Establishing equality and the principle that all New Zealanders are equal under the law."

Applying the treaty influences life in New Zealand in many ways:

- Parliament: Maori representation is guaranteed with reserved seats
- Waitangi Tribunal: researches and makes legal decisions on cases where Maori land and other resources were taken illegally or unfairly in the past
- Fisheries: Maori have significant control and rights to these
- Language (te reo): is an official language along with English and New Zealand sign language. You will see and hear te reo all around you.

Wars and Growth

There was increasing pressure for the Maori people to sell their land for European settlement. This led to a conflict in the 1860's and war broke out on the North

Island. During the 20 years of war, a lot of Maori land was confiscated or bought.

The South Island, at this time, was seeing a lot of settlement growth. Gold was found in Otago in 1861. In the 1870s the government helped thousands of British come to New Zealand and start a new life.

The economy was dependent on agriculture and because of this, much of the forest that originally covered New Zealand was cleared. During the two world wars, New Zealand sent thousands of men over to fight. The 1915 landing at Gallipoli in Turkey is seen as a coming of age for New Zealand. It established ANZAC (Australia and New Zealand Army Corp) and the special relationship with Australia. ANZAC day is now celebrated on April 25th to commemorate the Gallipoli landing.

New Zealand did side with America in Korea in the 1950s and again in Vietnam in the 1960s.

CULTURE

Government

New Zealand is a parliamentary democracy (similar to the UK and Australia and Canada). The prime minister is determined by who leads the political party or group of parties (coalition) with the majority of seats in the House. The prime minister is the most important in day to day national government, but above them is the Head of

State. Currently, that is Queen Elizabeth II, the British Queen.

There are two tiers of government in New Zealand, Central and Local. Central makes decisions that affect New Zealand as a whole. Local looks after the interests and needs of specific communities through regional, city and district councils. People decide on the central government by democratic vote, every three years.

More about the intricacies of the government can be found here:

<https://www.newzealandnow.govt.nz/living-in-nz/history-government/our-constitution>

Social Change

New Zealand was the first country in the world to grant all women the right to vote (1893). New Zealand is becoming known for its advanced viewpoints on women's rights. Current prime minister, Jacinda Ardern, has been making waves. Presently, employees are entitled to take maternity leave for up to 18 weeks and they will still receive a government funded parental leave salary. Employers must also keep their job open so that the person can return to it after their leave. The current prime minister is working to get the paid leave up to 26 weeks by 2020.

Sport

The All Blacks are the only rugby team you will want to care about when in New Zealand. Rugby is a way of life in New

Zealand. You will have many opportunities to watch or play it. You might want to brush up on your rugby knowledge before heading to New Zealand. Currently, Amazon Prime has a series called "All or Nothing: All Blacks" that follows the team around for a year. It is worth the watch.

The use of "as"

New Zealanders are known for adding "as" to many expressions. "Sweet as" is the most common but any adjective can be added before the "as." Sometimes people will say "dark as" meaning it is dark in here. "Sweet as" can be a response for almost anything – it can mean, okay, awesome, etc. Awesome is another word that will be overused by Kiwis. Here is a great blog that talks about phrases and what Kiwis are actually saying: <http://www.mynewzealandcampervantrip.com/about-new-zealand/10-silly-things-kiwis-say/>

The Hongi – Maori Greeting

This is a traditional Maori greeting. When meeting Maori people, you press your noses and foreheads together and share in "the breath of life." While this can be uncomfortable for many people, it is a sign of respect when meeting Maori people.

Marae – Maori Meeting Grounds

A marae is a Maori meeting grounds. It is a fenced in complex that will have carved building and ground that belong to a certain iwi (tribe) or whanau (family). The Marae is used for meetings, celebrations,

funerals, workshops, etc. As a visitor, you are encouraged to participate in a powhiri, a formal welcoming ceremony before you can enter the Marae. If you have the chance to participate in a powhiri, it can be a great cultural experience.

Ta Moko – Maori Tattoo

Traditionally, Maori men received moko on their faces, buttocks and thighs. Women usually wore moko on their lips and chin. It will reflect the individual's ancestry and history. In the past, it was a sign of social rank, knowledge, skill or eligibility to marry. You will most likely see someone, at some point, that has facial moko as some people still participate in that practice.

Maori tattoos hold a lot of special meaning and if you are a non-Maori person, you should do a lot of research as to why you shouldn't (or should) obtain a moko. It can be offensive for non-Maori people to obtain certain tattoos out of ignorance of the significance it holds to the Maori people. You are encouraged to not get a moko.

Haka – Maori War Dance

The haka is the dance you will see if you ever watch an All Blacks match. The players do it before each match.

The haka is an ancient Maori war dance and was used on the battlefield but as well as when people came together in peace. It is meant to exhibit the tribe's pride, strength and unity. There will be strong foot

stomping, tongue protrusions and body slapping while chanting. The words being said relate back to the tribe's ancestors and history. Today the haka is done at important ceremonies and celebrations. If you are invited to attend a haka, you should definitely do it, as it is a cultural experience that New Zealand is known for.

Tiaki Promise

New Zealand prides itself on the strong connection it has to the land and the responsibility to care for it. From a young age, children are taught to care for the land. They believe that if you look after the land, it will look after you and future generations. When in New Zealand, you should respect all rules for the land and culture. If you decide to go camping or hiking, be sure to take out everything you bring in. Do not leave a trace. Also respect the trails and stay on the designated trails.

WEB RESOURCES FOR NEW ZEALAND

City
Palmerston North: http://www.manawatunz.co.nz
Wellington: https://www.wellingtonnz.com
Auckland: https://www.aucklandnz.com
Culture
Kiwi Culture: https://www.justlanded.com/english/New-Zealand/New-Zealand-Guide/Culture/Kiwi-culture
Maori Culture: https://www.newzealand.com/us/maori-culture/
Country
New Zealand Tourism: http://www.newzealand.com/us/
New Zealand Newspaper: http://www.stuff.co.nz
Education New Zealand: https://www.studyinnewzealand.govt.nz/live-work/

CONTACT NAMES & ADDRESSES: NEW ZEALAND

GENERAL UW-EAU CLAIRE & CISI CONTACT INFORMATION IS IN YOUR STUDY ABROAD HANDBOOK.

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UW-Eau Claire

Jenna Krosch
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US Consulate in New Zealand

Citigroup Centre, 3rd floor
23 Customs Street East
Auckland, NZ
+(64)(9) 303-2724
Emergency, After Hours: (64)(4)462-6000
Email: aucklandacs@state.gov

New Zealand Embassy in Washington D.C.

37 Observatory Cir NW
Washington, D.C.
202-328-4800

