

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EAU CLAIRE

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Study Abroad



**USAC NEW ZEALAND
FALL 2017**

Program Guide

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CONGRATULATIONS on being accepted to the USAC program to Massey University. 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 the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC). You will be taking classes at one of the Massey University locations along with other U.S. students, international students, and local New Zealand students.

The best way to think of this USAC experience is to imagine that you are going to study at a university abroad, just as international students come to study in the U.S. You will need to be flexible and willing to live with a fair amount of ambiguity as you prepare to go abroad. You may be the only UW-Eau Claire student going to this site in your semester, although it is likely that there will be other USAC students from other U.S. institutions. However, you may also be one of a large number of international students at your site abroad, and "student services" are understood very differently around the world. You may need to ask many questions to find your way around at first.

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 yachts sail the area.

The **Manawatu Campus** is located in Palmerston North and is the original Massey Campus. You will notice the history and park-like setting of campus. Manawatu is home to over 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.

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 2017. **Here is a tentative calendar:**

Depart U.S.	July 7
Arrive in New Zealand	July 9 (move in dates will differ by campus)
Orientation (dates differ by campus)	July 12
First Day of Class	July 17
Classes end	October 20
Study Period	October 23-27
Exam Period	October 30-November 15
First day to depart	Depends on your last day of exams

****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.**

To see more of the calendar, you can go here and click on the appropriate term:

<http://usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/new-zealand/palmerston-north/calendars> Please note that a UWEC fall semester is considered Semester 2 at Massey.

ACADEMICS

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

Program Prerequisites

To participate in the Massey University program, **you must be in good academic, conduct, and financial standing, complete required prerequisite courses, and have the minimum 2.75 GPA required.** The CIE will check grades at the end of the semester prior to departure. If you are on not in good academic or conduct standing at that time, we will need to check with USAC to see if you will be allowed to participate. If you have been suspended, you will not be allowed to participate on the program. This means that cancellation may happen days before your planned departure date.

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
Class or courses	Paper
Major	Programme
College	College
Syllabus	Course Profile
Online Course	Distance Paper
Class Schedule	Timetable
Course Load	Study Plan

Classes (Papers)

Massey University calls classes “papers.”

Introductory papers are at the 100-level, increasing to the 200-level, 300-level, and 400-level. When looking at papers, each paper 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 papers 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 papers 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 paper is 15 credits, which transfers back to UW-Eau Claire as 3 credits. You will take four papers, which will transfer back as 12 UW-Eau Claire credits.

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

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). 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.

Registration at Massey

On your application, directly to Massey, you list papers that you are interested in taking. Massey

will review your selection and determine if you are able to take those courses. Your registration will be finalized later.

After you've been fully accepted by Massey University, you will receive an email from Massey with an explanation of the course enrollment process and your password to go into your MyMassey account. On your MyMassey account, you'll be able to see what course you were approved for and make changes to your enrollment. Even if you were approved for two papers, you might not be able to take both due to timetable conflicts. You should always have alternative papers in mind.

Students attending in the spring will be able to log in in October and register for approved papers. **Students attending in the fall will be able to log in and register as soon as you have your login details from Massey.** Massey will send further instructions in an online welcome guide and email.

Course Equivalencies

You can find a list of previously established UW-Eau Claire course equivalencies for your host site by going to the Transfer Wizard site on MyBlugold CampS, which can be found at https://my.uwec.edu/psp/PUBLIC/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/EAU_SS_CUSTOM.EAU_TRNCRD_WZ.GBL. Once you have reviewed the list of equivalencies for your host site and compared it to your selections, you will want to meet with your UW-Eau Claire academic adviser to discuss how these courses might fit into your UW-Eau Claire academic career. You should bring course descriptions for all requested classes to the meeting with your academic adviser, if they are available. **Be sure to bring a copy of the equivalency list and your degree**

audit to your host site to assist with registration there.

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.)

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.**

Please note that you cannot assume that a course you are taking will transfer back in the way you want it to just because the course description sounds similar to a course taught at UW-Eau Claire. All course equivalency decisions are made by UW-Eau Claire department chairs and are not official until the Registrar's Office receives the equivalency, with the chair's signature on it.

Reporting your Registration

As soon as you are registered for classes abroad, **log in to your UW-Eau Claire online study abroad 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

for each of the classes you are taking, IF no equivalency has previously been established.

If no UW-Eau Claire equivalency has been determined for a class that you registered for, the UW-Eau Claire coordinator will contact the Registrar's Office for an equivalency and let you know what it is. Please note that the equivalency is determined by the chair of the appropriate department, and that the process of determining an equivalency can take 2-3 weeks.

Grades & Transcripts

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 Pass	C
P Ungraded Pass	CR
AEG Aegrotat Pass	IN
R Restricted Pass	D
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.

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, what you will pay directly to Massey and what you pay directly to other vendors.

Currency Exchange

The currency of New Zealand is the New Zealand dollar (NZD). The exchange rate as of December 2016 was 1 USD = 1.39 NZD. You can find current exchange rates at <http://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/>.

Cost of Living in New Zealand

In general, you will find prices for food and other items to be a little more expensive than that in the U.S. This is due to most everything needing to be shipped into New Zealand.

Credit Cards

Visa and MasterCard are the most commonly accepted credit cards abroad. Be prepared to have another form of payment ready in case you cannot use your card or your card is denied. Most credit cards charge a fee or percentage for the currency exchange rate. Notify your credit card company prior to departure of where you will be travelling.

Cash

You should have no problem using the cash currency in New Zealand. It is recommended that you always carry some cash on you in the event a place doesn't take credit cards.

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 and 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.

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 insurance. The fees for the StudentSafe insurance will be included in your USAC fees. USAC will also release your StudentSafe insurance card/information to your USAC Gateway account closer to your departure.

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 website:

<http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/list.asp>

x. 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.

Emergency Contacts

General emergency procedures are described in the Study Abroad Handbook and staff are available at your host site if difficulties arise. You will receive emergency contact information directly from your Massey campus during orientation in New Zealand³.

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 the victim of a crime 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.

Earthquakes

The majority of New Zealand is vulnerable to earthquakes, and therefore potential 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 are required to obtain a student visa prior to arrival in New Zealand. You will need to make an appointment with your UWEC coordinator, after UW-Eau Claire's orientation to learn more about the visa application. Please note, you should not apply for your visa until after you receive your official acceptance from

Massey University, and no more than two months before your arrival. **However, it is your responsibility to keep up-to-date about student visa requirements for New Zealand, and to apply for and receive a visa in a timely manner.**

All **non-U.S. citizens** are responsible for obtaining the correct visa to study in New Zealand. The CIE cannot advise on what requirements you will have. Please see the Study Abroad Handbook for visa companies that may be able to assist you.

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.

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 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 Adviser will give you a suggested packing list at your program group meeting in April.

USAC will also post a suggested packing list to your Gateway account.

For females: it is difficult to find tampons with applicators in New Zealand; if you prefer those, bring a full supply for your time abroad.

Appliances

The standard electric current in New Zealand is 230 volts. U.S. appliances, such as hair dryers

and razors, run on 120 volts. If you plan to bring these appliances, you will need to buy **both a converter and a plug adapter**. An adapter changes your American plug to fit the New Zealand outlet and a converter converts the 230 volts to 120 volts so that your appliance can handle the electricity intake. If you plan to bring your laptop abroad, check the power cord to see acceptable voltage inputs and outputs. If it includes 230 volts, you will only need to use a plug adapter, not a voltage converter. Also keep in mind that sometimes appliances like hair dryers, electric razors, etc. cannot handle the conversion and end up being ruined or sparking. It might be best to buy an affordable option once you arrive.

ARRIVING IN 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.

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

[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. Your pickup will be either at the destination airport, bus or train station. There may be an additional fee for the pick-up and you will pay that directly to Massey or to the driver.

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. The free pickup service isn't available after the start of the orientation program.

Orientation

Orientations will vary by Massey University site, but all locations will have an orientation and they are mandatory. During your orientation you will have a chance to change papers 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

Housing Application

You are responsible for securing your housing at Massey University. As soon as you accept your Offer of Placement, you will want to complete the housing application. It is a first come, first serve procedure and the cheapest housing will fill the fastest. The earlier you make your booking, the more likely you will receive your first choice. You will also need to make sure you pay for your housing in a timely manner. Failure to do so, could result in your spot going to another student.

When deciding which housing to choose, keep in mind that you will need to pay rent and any utilities. Also, keep in mind the amenities and the number of roommates you'll have. Location is also important to keep in mind, if you have options for location. See the [Meals](#) section of this guide to learn about meal options.

Housing Payments

All housing payments are made directly to the provider abroad, by either credit card or wire transfer. They are NOT included in your fees

you pay to USAC or UWEC. Fees will vary by campus and the accommodation you select. Typically, you will be asked to make the full semester payment prior to the start of the program. However, contact the accommodation manager to see if there are other payment options.

Housing Information

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 (depending on the housing you select). 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.

For more information and to access the applications for housing, see the website for the location you have chosen:

[Auckland \(Albany\)](#)

[Palmerston North \(Manawatu\)](#)

[Wellington](#)

What's Included

You may need to provide your own towels. Bedding and linen can be provided at each campus if requested and paid for in advance. Bedding packs are mandatory at the Wellington

campus. There are a lot of inexpensive places to purchase linens when you arrive.

MEALS

Some places offer a catered meal plan option. If you are looking for housing with a meal plan, you will want to look for the catered option. Any housing listed as self-catered means that there is no meal plan.

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, meaning they cook for themselves. 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 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.

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

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
- 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

WEB RESOURCES: New Zealand

University	Travel	Country
USAC-New Zealand http://usac.unr.edu/study-abroad-programs/new-zealand/palmerston-north	Tourism New Zealand http://www.newzealand.com/us/	Major NZ news website with a wide regional focus http://www.stuff.co.nz
Massey University http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/international/study-abroad/study-abroad_home.cfm	Adventure Travel Network - backpacker bus tours http://www.kiwiexperience.com/	New Zealand Education Information http://www.studyinnewzealand.com/
		New Zealand Immigration Service http://www.immigration.govt.nz/

CONTACT NAMES & ADDRESSES: NEW ZEALAND

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

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Other Resources

The US Department of State offers useful travel information on the “Students Abroad” section of their web site:
<https://travel.state.gov/content/studentsabroad/en.html>

US Embassy in New Zealand

3rd Floor
Citigroup Centre
23 Custom St. East
Auckland, New Zealand
Telephone: +64 (0)9 303-2724
Emergency After Hours: +(64) (4) 462-6000 or
+(64) (9) 303-2724 ext. 2900
Fax: +64 (0)9 303-1069
Email: aucklandacs@state.gov



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