

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

WELCOME FROM THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR

Nau mai, haere mai ki Te Kura Pukenga Tangata

A warm welcome to the College of Humanities and Social Sciences

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences is home to a diverse range of disciplines and programmes. It is committed to ensuring that our teaching and qualifications are of the highest quality and that they are informed by scholarship and current research. It has a long-established tradition of providing student-centered learning.

Research excellence is critical to what we do as a way of contributing to our various stakeholder communities - from Tangata Whenua to the government to the students we teach - and to making sure that we are adding value to the communities that we are part of.

In recent years, the college has moved to reinvigorate its Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree. It aims to meet the expectations of students and employers in the changing landscape of the twenty-first century. We are reviewing our curriculum more generally and are keen to ensure that our teaching practice keeps pace with the opportunities provided by modern technologies. We recognise that global considerations are critical to what we do and we are in the process of implementing an ambitious internationalisation strategy. This will ensure that our staff and students understand global influences and issues and takes what we do to international audiences. We are very committed to working with international partners to advance teaching and research.

We help our students and communities achieve their educational goals, and we contribute to new knowledge and research that makes a difference within New Zealand and beyond.

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa
Distinguished Professor Paul Spoonley



HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

TE KURA PUKENGA TANGATA

Social understandings and creative and critical thinking are at the heart of much of the work of the college.

It encompasses the study of humans, including the origins and character of our diverse cultures; the distinctive foundations of New Zealand society; the organisation and nature of our communities; education and teaching; and the social, political and creative influences that are shaping human behaviours, cultures and environments globally now and into the future.



ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH UNITS

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

The Institute's teaching, research and outreach activities focus on: Explaining the nature of lifelong learning and education; improving the processes of formal, professional and everyday educational settings; understanding the contribution of learning and teaching to personal, family, organisational and community development; and reducing educational inequalities. Its purpose is to address these big educational issues and offer opportunities to gain world class qualifications in a range of general and professional education subjects. Its academic staff are strongly connected to regional, national and international communities of research interest and undertake significant outreach work both in Aotearoa New Zealand and overseas.

SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND MEDIA STUDIES

The School of English and Media Studies offers a unique combination of critical and creative opportunities. Its programmes develop students' analytical, practical, and creative skills and are designed to cultivate their knowledge of literary and media texts, film and cultural theory, theatre and expressive arts, creative writing, professional writing, and communication. A number of the school's academics are award winning and internationally acclaimed.

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

Humanities disciplines bring together the many different aspects of what it means to be human. They ask fundamental questions about society and culture and examine New Zealand's individual and collective achievements, fascinations and follies in both the past and present. The disciplines offered in the school, including linguistics, Chinese, French, Japanese, Spanish, history, classical studies and philosophy, uniquely develop valuable skills in research, analysis, critical thinking and communication.

SCHOOL OF MĀORI ART, KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION

Te Pūtahi-a-Toi, the School of Māori Art, Knowledge and Education, provides an academic focus for Māori cultural, educational, social and economic development. It seeks to retain and develop New Zealand's heritage and contribute to the advancement of indigenous peoples. It has active links with iwi and the wider Māori community, and participates in hui, wānanga, conferences and seminars. Strong connections have also been built with heritage communities at regional and national levels. The undergraduate and postgraduate Māori immersion teaching qualifications are flagship programmes of the school.

SCHOOL OF PEOPLE, ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

The School of People, Environment and Planning is a rich mix of applied and fundamental social science disciplines. Its students come from all over the world. The school's cross-disciplinary culture creates many opportunities for their learning that are both stimulating intellectually and relevant practically. At the heart of our programmes are challenging questions around: How should we live together? How do we shape the natural, built and social environments that we live in? How do these environments shape us? Can we do better? In addition, our internationally recognised staff carry out research and teaching that uniquely connects the social with the natural, and the personal with the planetary.

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

The School of Psychology underpins the ever-changing psychology disciplines. Its programmes allow students to explore the systematic study of individual's behaviour and the impact of human behaviour on the world.

The school has psychology centres at each campus to create a bridge between the academic and applied areas of psychology. They offer clinical psychology services direct to the public, conduct research, and enable postgraduate students to be trained in applied psychology.

CENTRE FOR DEFENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES

The Centre for Defence and Security Studies is New Zealand's principal centre of education for security and defence studies. It offers qualifications that equip students with the substantive knowledge and analytical skills to confront the complex security challenges of both today and the future. Its qualifications explore topics such as traditional and emerging security issues, national security strategy, military operations, border security, terrorism and insurgency, peacekeeping, policing and intelligence. Staff are also committed to building a world-class research programme that advances knowledge of defence and security and contributes to national, regional and global conversations.

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

The centre brings together experts in mathematics education to work on a common theme: the place of mathematics education and its transformative potential in New Zealand, the Pacific region and the world. A focus on equity and cultural responsiveness underwrites their research projects and the developmental work they engage in with teachers, postgraduate students, and new researchers. Their strong tradition of collaboration with international and national researchers enables them to contribute to scholarly debates, in both the research and professional fields.

TĀTAI ANGITU E3@MASSEY

Grounded on three core strands – education, efficacy and enterprise – Tātai Angitu e3@Massey is a service unit operating alongside the Institute of Education and offers high quality education sector-facing professional learning, development and support. Tātai Angitu works to achieve enhanced outcomes for teachers, leaders, children, whānau and community organisations and businesses by actively linking opportunities and needs. They are a preferred supplier of national and international contracts in Early Learning, Curriculum, Leadership and increasingly in research informed sector development and system level change. Areas of specialisation include co-constructed responsive provision, using blended delivery models and facilitation whilst keeping the learner at the centre.

JOINT CENTRE FOR DISASTER RESEARCH

The centre is a joint venture between Massey University and GNS Science. It is New Zealand's incubator of disaster management and sits within the School of Psychology. Based at the Wellington campus, the centre undertakes multi-disciplinary applied teaching and research aimed at developing understanding, improving societal management, and enhancing community preparedness of natural, man-made and environmental events.

W.H. OLIVER HUMANITIES RESEARCH ACADEMY

Established in 2014, the W.H. Oliver Humanities Research Academy aims to foster a vibrant, creative and highly responsive research culture among humanities scholars, which anticipates and addresses current and future research challenges. It brings together staff and postgraduate students from a range of disciplines including classics, creative and expressive arts, English literature, heritage and museum studies, history, languages, linguistics, media studies, philosophy and religious studies.

JOINT CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS

Established in 2017, the centre is a joint venture between Massey University and Beijing Language and Culture University. The centre undertakes research on distance language acquisition of Chinese within digital environments. This centre aims to develop high standards of rich online academic research and distance Chinese language teaching materials, which can be accessed and shared by various research and teaching institutions in the Asia-Pacific region.

