



ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE

KO TE MANA MŌ MUA I TE WHAKAMANA | HONOUR BEFORE HONOURS

COURSE SELECTION

2025

KŌWHIRINGA AKOMANGA



NCEA LEVEL 3

IHIRANGI | CONTENT



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KUPU WHAKATAKI | INTRODUCTION

Kia ora koe e te kaipānui,

As you are reading this, you or someone you know will be studying towards NCEA Level 3 in 2025. Congratulations on taking such a big step on your educational journey!

This course booklet aims to prepare you for meaningful selection, by providing advice and outlining the different courses available here at Ōtorohanga College. As you will see, the dedicated kaiako of our kura are offering a range of rich learning experiences to help you take positive future steps within and beyond College.

Use this booklet to plan a programme of learning that best suits your future ambitions. Please take the time to read through the section titled **Selection Advice** and discuss with your teachers and whānau.

Spend time and energy in the selection process to ensure that you have a course that is challenging and enriching. Choose wisely and plan to make 2025 your best year so far at Ōtorohanga College.



Tā mātou mihi kauanuanu,

The Ōtorohanga College Pathways Team

NCEA AT ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE

Overview

Senior ākonga at our kura study towards their National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA). In each course, skills and knowledge are assessed against a number of standards. These assessments are conducted internally by our teachers throughout the College year, as well as externally in exams at the end of Term Four.

When a student achieves a standard, they gain a number of credits. As per the image below, students must achieve a certain number of credits to gain their NCEA. In general, students work through Levels 1 to 3 in Years 11 to 1



Assessments and Endorsements

The grades that a student can earn depend on the type of standard being assessed:

The grades available through **Unit Standards** are generally:

- Achieved (A) for meeting the criteria
- Not Achieved (N) if a student does not meet the criteria

The grades available through **Achievement Standards** are:

- Achieved (A) for a satisfactory performance
- Merit (M) for very good performance
- Excellence (E) for outstanding performance
- Not Achieved (N) if students do not meet the criteria

If a student gains 50 credits at Excellence, their NCEA will be endorsed with Excellence. Likewise, if a student gains 50 credits at Merit, or a combination of Merit and Excellence, their NCEA will be endorsed with Merit. This is called a **Certificate Endorsement**.

A **Course Endorsement** provides recognition for a student who has performed exceptionally well in an individual course. Students will gain an endorsement for a course if, in a single College year, they achieve:

- 14 or more credits at Achieved, Merit or Excellence, and
- at least 3 of these credits from externally assessed standards and 3 credits from internally assessed standards.

University Entrance

University Entrance or UE is the highest qualification obtainable at Ōtorohanga College. This is a minimum requirement to go to a New Zealand university and it is generally gained in Year 13. To be awarded UE you will need:

- NCEA Level 3
- Three approved courses at Level 3 or above, made up of 14 credits in each
- Literacy: 10 credits at Level 2 or above made up of 5 credits in Reading and 5 credits in Writing
- Numeracy: 10 credits at Level 1 or above, made up of specified Achievement Standards available through a range of courses



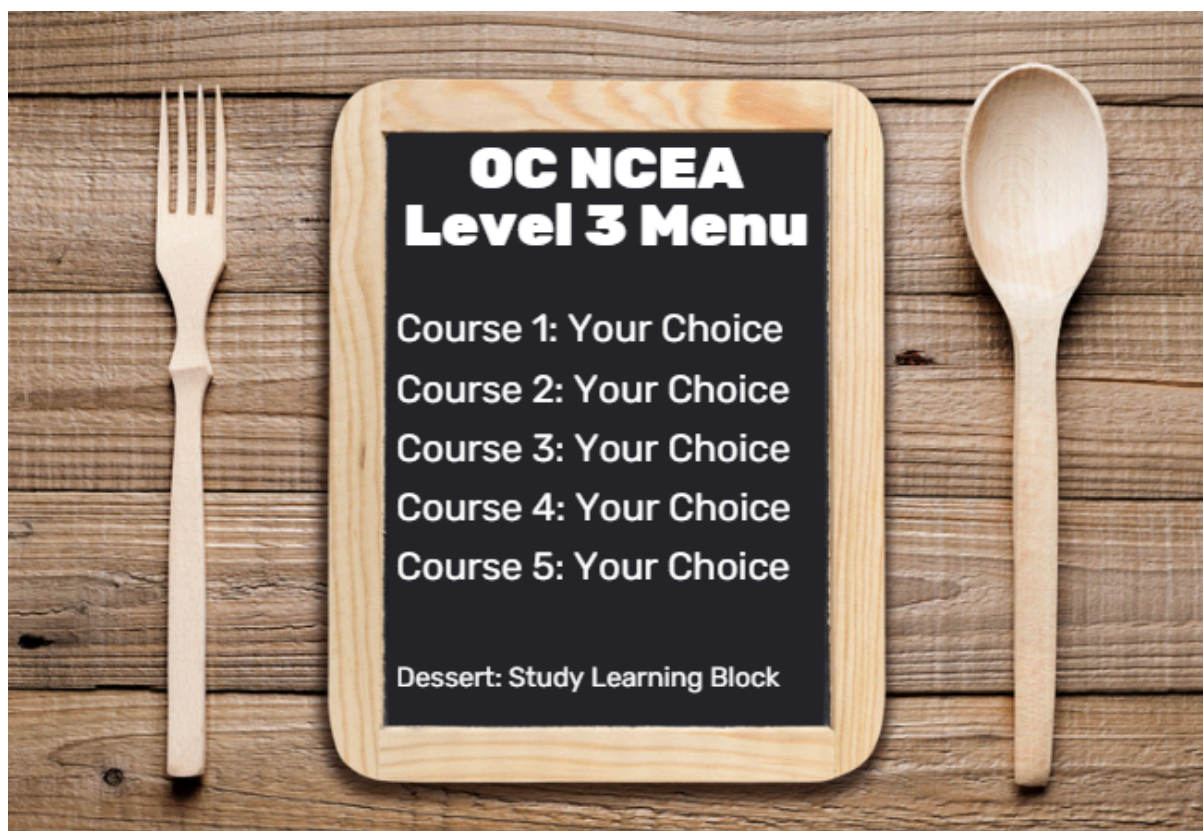
Some students meet the Literacy and Numeracy requirements already in Year 12. Check your results to see if this applies to you!

KUPU ĀWHINA KŌWHIRINGA | SELECTION ADVICE

Overview

Just like at Level 2, there are no compulsory Ōtorohanga College courses at Level 3. You will choose freely among the vast learning experiences on offer. There is only one difference:

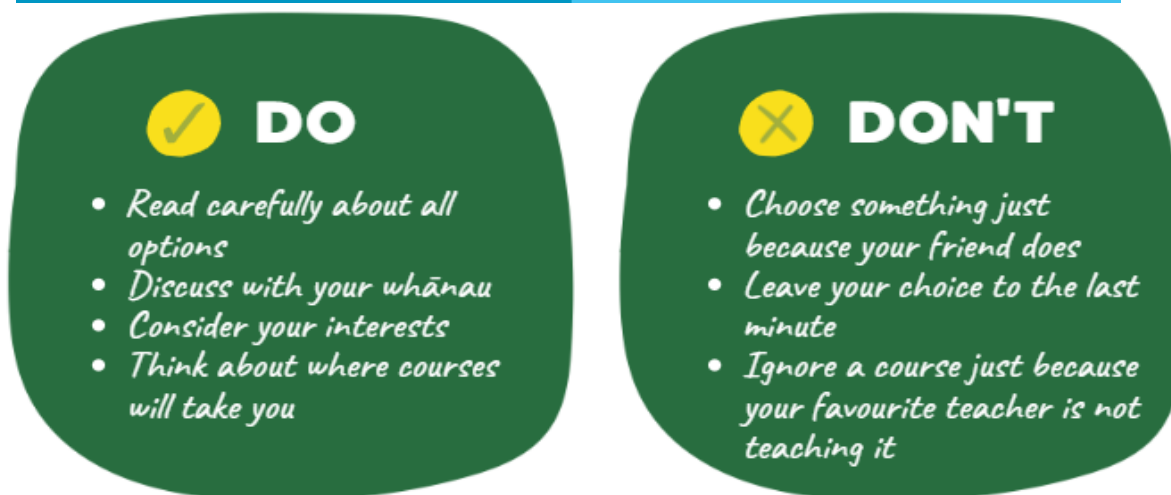
- At Level 3, you will only be taking five courses rather than six. In recognition of your maturity as a Year 13 student, the rest of your timetable will be taken up by individual study Learning Blocks.



While we hope to run every option course listed in this booklet, some courses may have to be combined or cancelled should the student numbers be too low. **Therefore, students will also be required to choose a backup option.**

What To Choose

The best course selection advice is to choose a wide range of subjects to leave as many future pathways as possible open. Ask yourself the four questions below:



Important! To keep a university pathway open, we advise you to select at least four university approved courses. Check the course overview on **P. 10** to assist you in this. In addition, your selection should ensure you can gain all UE Literacy credits (5 Reading + 5 Writing) in case you do not do so at Level 2.

Further Guidance

At College:

- Discuss your options with your Empower Whakamana Teacher, Course Teacher, Head of Faculty or Dean. They may be able to offer more insight into a particular course.
- Come and kōrero with the Pathways Team. We are able to offer advice on how courses relate to particular careers. **You may also email Kristofer Ekholm (HOF Pathways) on ekholmk@otocoll.school.nz**



Beyond School:

- Use careers.govt.nz/tools/subject-matcher to match courses to different career paths.
- Research different careers and the necessary course requirements on careercentral.school.nz. Students log in with their normal school details.
- Speak to people in the workplace if you already have a career in mind. What would they recommend that you choose?

Making Your Selection On Career Central

Step 1

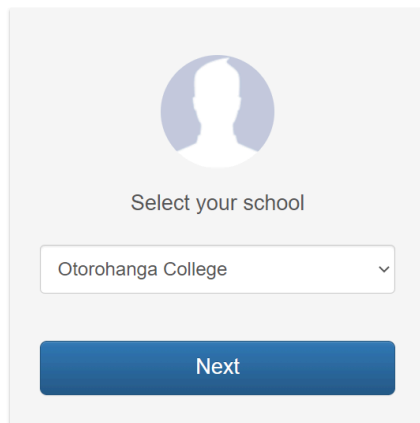
Go to careercentral.school.nz

Step 2

Choose **Student Login** at the very top.

Step 3

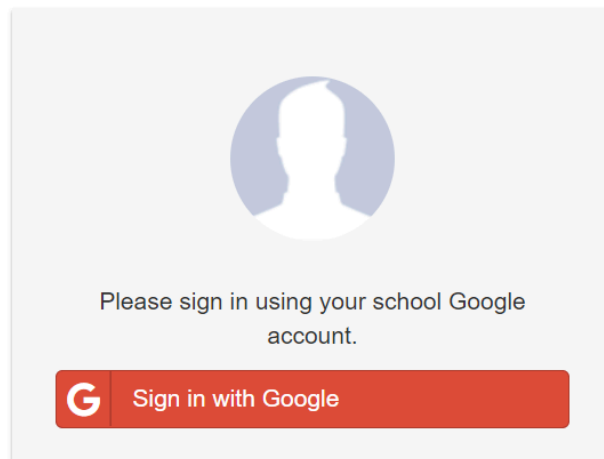
Select Ōtorohanga College and click **Next**, before signing in with your normal school Google account details.



Select your school

Otorohanga College

Next



Please sign in using your school Google account.

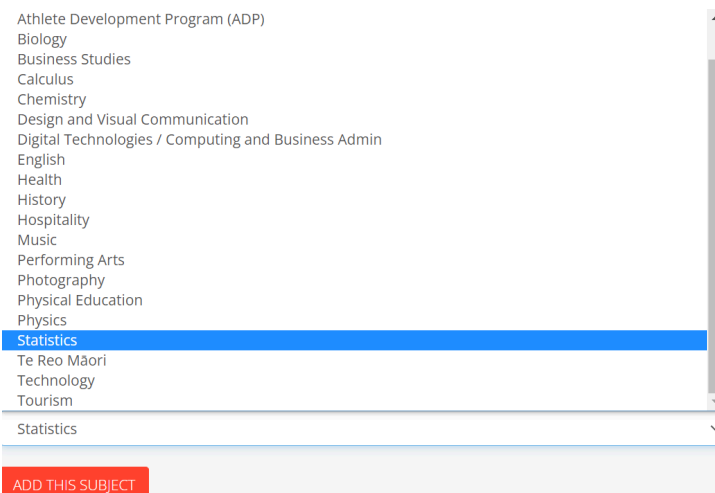
Sign in with Google

Step 4

Click **Next Steps** and then **2025 Course Selection**.

Step 5

Select five courses + one backup course.



Athlete Development Program (ADP)
Biology
Business Studies
Calculus
Chemistry
Design and Visual Communication
Digital Technologies / Computing and Business Admin
English
Health
History
Hospitality
Music
Performing Arts
Photography
Physical Education
Physics
Statistics
Te Reo Māori
Technology
Tourism

Statistics

ADD THIS SUBJECT

WINTERC TRADES ACADEMY

In addition to studying standard subjects at College, Year 12 and 13 students also have the opportunity to join the Trades Academy through Ōtorohanga College's partnership with Wintec. As a Trades Academy student, you would spend one day per week completing a course run by Wintec. These courses are worth 24-30 NCEA credits each and include:

- Building and Construction
- Manufacturing and Technology
- Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy
- Outdoor Experience
- Mechanical/Automotive/Electrical Engineering



If you are interested in the Trades Academy, please express your interest to Mrs Melanie Wilken (Pathways Coordinator) in person or via pathways@otocoll.school.nz. We have 30 places available and will conduct interviews before accepting any students for 2025.

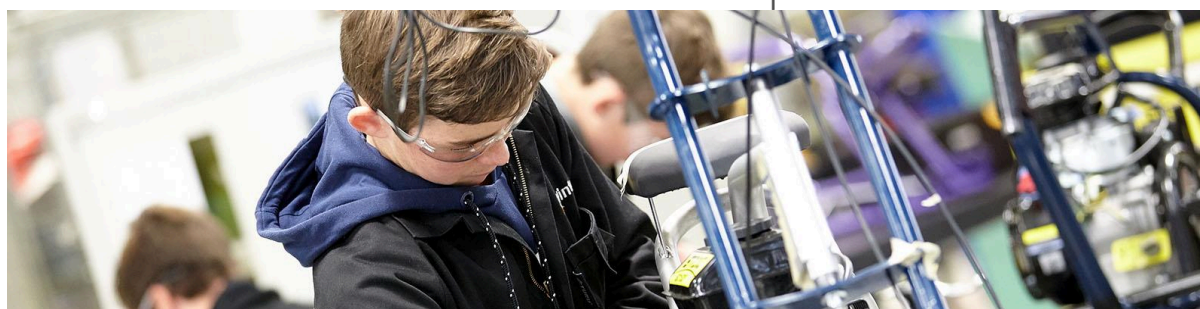
If you are reading the digital copy of this booklet, [click this link](#) to read about the different Wintec courses on offer. If not, stop by the Pathways Office to look through our physical prospectus.



Wintec



Te Pūkenga




















Important: If you are hoping to attend university in 2026, you must consider that missing one day per week of NCEA Level 3 subjects will make gaining UE harder. You must be really disciplined in order to gain both UE and complete the Trades Academy mahi.



RARANGI AKOMANGA | COURSE LIST

LEVEL 3

 = UE Approved

FACULTY	COURSES	MORE INFO
HANGARAU TECHNOLOGY Head of Faculty: Mrs Gwen Buckley	Digital Technologies 	Page 11
	Hospitality	Page 11
	Technology 	Page 12
NGĀ TOI THE ARTS Head of Faculty: Mrs Fiona Parsons	Art 	Page 12
	Music 	Page 12
	Performing Arts 	Page 13
	Photography 	Page 13
PĀNGARAU MATHEMATICS Head of Faculty: Miss Hayley Wards	Calculus 	Page 13
	Statistics 	Page 14
PŪTAIAO SCIENCE Head of Faculty: Mrs Diane Pemberton	Biology 	Page 14
	Chemistry 	Page 15
	Physics 	Page 15
TE AO KORI HEALTH AND PHYSICAL WELLBEING Head of Faculty: Mr Leighton Parsons	Athlete Development Programme (ADP)	Page 16
	Health 	Page 17
	Physical Education 	Page 17
TE REO MĀORI MĀORI LANGUAGE Head of Faculty: Whāea Miriama Pere	Te Reo Māori 	Page 18
TE REO PĀKEHĀ ENGLISH Head of Faculty: Mrs Karen Flay	English 	Page 18
TIKANGA Ā-IWI SOCIAL SCIENCES Head of Faculty: Whāea Vianni	Business Studies 	Page 18
	History 	Page 19
	Tourism	Page 19

Level 3 Digital Technologies



Course Outline	Students learn to use computing technology to solve a range of problems alongside software solutions. They can choose a coding pathway or may prefer to lean towards more practical skills needed for a workplace setting.		
Pathway	This course offers workplace skills and prepares students for Tertiary Studies.		
Assessment	External	Internal	UE Literacy
	0 Credits	8-22 Credits	No

Level 3 Hospitality

Course Outline	Throughout this course students will cover theory of culinary terms and food safety as well as learn real hospitality skills in both the classroom and as part of Cafe B3. This course also includes Level 3 Barista training.		
Pathway	<p>Completion of Level 3 Hospitality is a basis for ongoing study in the Hospitality field at any tertiary institution other than a New Zealand University (credits cannot be used for University Entrance). Tertiary studies include higher level quantity food service training (Cookery Level 4 - 7), food service management, front-of-house and bar management studies and the tourism sector.</p> <p>Occupations associated with the study of Hospitality include Executive Chef, food-related journalism and photography, Armed Forces chef in the field, self-employed business owner, new product development opportunities, chef, barista, bar person hospital/rest-home catering etc.</p>		
Assessment	External	Internal	UE Literacy
	0 Credits	20 Credits	No

Level 3 Technology



Course Outline	The course further refines the students' construction skills and understanding about best practice and manufacturing techniques. The course is largely practical in nature, based around construction projects such as furniture making, Building and Carpentry skills, and other hands-on activities. This course will utilise industry expertise by offering workplace visits and guest speakers to allow students to build relationships with industry and gain practical experience.		
Pathway	This is an Externally and Internally assessed Achievement Standards course. Any Tertiary Level Technology course is the progression from this course.		
Assessment	External	Internal	UE Literacy
	0 Credits	18 Credits	No

Level 3 Art



Course Outline	This course covers the discipline of painting, printmaking and sculpture. It involves research and analysis, theory, investigating and using ideas and methods and the production of original work in the form of a folio.		
Assessment	External	Internal	UE Literacy
	14 Credits	12 Credits	No

Level 3 Music



Course Outline	This course covers solo and group performance, composition, theory, musical knowledge, research, arrangement, aural work and music technology.		
Pathway	This is an Externally and Internally assessed Achievement Standards University Approved course.		
Assessment	External	Internal	UE Literacy
	4 Credits	20 Credits	No

Level 3 Performing Arts

Course Outline

This course gives students the choice to cover drama performance and drama techniques, dance performance, dance choreography, elements of dance. Students will have the opportunity to complete their assessments in Drama, Dance or both.

Assessment

External

4 Credits (All Reading)

Internal

20 Credits (4 Reading)

UE Literacy

Partially

Level 3 Photography

Course Outline

This course is designed to extend students' knowledge of photographic practices studied in Level 2. The course covers the discipline of photography. It involves research and analysis, theory, investigating, and using ideas and methods, and the production of original work in the form of a folio.

Assessment

External

14 Credits

Internal

12 Credits

UE Literacy

No

Level 3 Calculus

Course Outline

Mathematics helps students think analytically. In this high paced, academic course students will apply differentiation and integration methods in solving real world problems. Furthermore, students can expect to apply all these algebraic concepts in everyday scenarios, realising that the laws of mathematics govern everything around us.

Assessment

External

12 Credits

Internal

10 Credits

UE Literacy

No

Level 3 Statistics



Course Outline

Mathematics helps students think analytically. In this high paced, academic course students will investigate time series and measurement data as well as situations using experimental design principles. They will also use these statistical methods to make inferences.

Assessment

External	Internal	UE Literacy
0 Credits	14 Credits	No

Level 3 Biology



Course Outline

Biology is the study of "Life". This course leads students to investigate and develop their understanding of diversity, structure, function and the interrelationships of living organisms, and their interactions with the environment. This course involves carrying out an individual research task, analysing a biological issue, as well as learning about how plants and animals respond to their environment.

This is an Externally and Internally assessed Achievement Standards course. The natural progression is a career involving the biological sciences such as fields in medicine (including nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy, dentistry and veterinary sciences), the environmental sciences (a ranger, ecologist, zoologist, marine science) and a researcher in fields such as biochemistry and molecular biology.

Assessment

External	Internal	UE Literacy
9 Credits (All <u>Reading and Writing</u>)	10 Credits (6 <u>Reading</u>)	Yes

Level 3 Chemistry



Course Outline

Chemistry is about understanding the different properties of different substances and how these can change. Chemistry allows us to predict how substances may change when the surrounding conditions change or how they may react to form new substances. This course covers the areas of redox reactions, organic chemistry, properties of particles, extended chemistry investigation and quantitative chemistry.

Assessment

External

5 Credits

Internal

10 Credits (3 Reading
and Writing)

UE Literacy

Partially

Level 3 Physics



Course Outline

Physics seeks to understand nature at its most fundamental level. Studying Physics attempts to discover and apply the general laws that govern force and motion, matter and energy and space. Topics to be studied include mechanical systems, wave systems, electrical systems, testing a physics theory relating to two variables in a non-linear relationship, modern physics, the application of physics to a selected context and using physics knowledge to develop an informed response to a socio-scientific issue.

Assessment

External

6 Credits

Internal

12 Credits (3
Reading)

UE Literacy

Partially

Level 3 Athlete Development Programme (ADP)

Course Outline

Ignite your passion for fitness and unleash your inner athlete with our dynamic and purpose-driven course! Designed for dedicated students seeking to excel in training, this programme cultivates mental resilience through rigorous physical challenges. Students will apply these invaluable lessons to their own sports and everyday life, fostering personal growth and success.

Each term presents exciting event goals, including the legendary Tough Guy/Gal Challenge, an exhilarating 10km or half marathon run, and the intense ADP Brutality Fitness Tests. This comprehensive course focuses on developing fundamental skills, strength and conditioning, and fostering a winning mindset necessary for sporting triumph.

With a student-centric approach, we prioritise holistic support and track well-being to ensure our athletes thrive. By participating in this transformative course, you'll gain a profound understanding of what it takes to become a remarkable sportsman or sportswoman.

Join us on this thrilling journey to unlock your athletic potential and become an outstanding young sports icon!

Assessment

External	Internal	UE Literacy
0 Credits	22 Credits (Level 2 and 3 Unit Standards)	No

Level 3 Health



Course Outline

The Health Programme at Ōtorohanga College is a comprehensive course centred around hauora/wellbeing and the pursuit of optimal health. It empowers students to think critically and gain profound insights into their surroundings by delving into various health-related contexts. The curriculum also encompasses a study of contemporary health concerns both globally and within New Zealand, alongside a focus on Health Promotion.

This course comprises four weekly theory lessons, each designed to explore different aspects of health. Students will look into pertinent health issues prevalent in New Zealand society, analyze international health concerns, examine contemporary ethical dilemmas influencing well-being, and evaluate the effectiveness of existing health practices within New Zealand.

Assessment

External	Internal	UE Literacy
5 Credits (All Reading and Writing)	14 Credits (All Reading)	Yes

Level 3 Physical Education



Course Outline

The Physical Education programme at Ōtorohanga College revolves around fostering lifelong physical activity among students. Each week, students engage in two practical and two theory lessons, covering a range of topics including anatomy, physiology, biomechanics, sports performance, fitness, interpersonal skills, sports promotion, outdoor education, and safety. The gym and the field of play serve as ideal environments for developing one's character and understanding life. "Your character is showcased when you engage in play!"

Assessment

External	Internal	UE Literacy
0 Credits	19 Credits (11 Reading)	Partially

Level 3 Te Reo Māori



Course Outline

This course aims to further develop the language skills taught in Level 2 of listening, speaking, reading, writing and research in Te Reo Māori using both familiar and unfamiliar contexts so that they may be assessed appropriately. Te Reo Māori at this level will require students to be independent and committed to their Te Reo Māori journey.

Assessment

External

12 Credits (6 reading + 6 Writing)

Internal

12 Credits (6 Writing)

UE Literacy

Yes

Level 3 English



Course Outline

This course offers a challenging programme and fosters advanced skills which, ultimately, prepares you for tertiary education. It is important you realise that you are expected to read a novel this year, as well as write in various styles. English is not compulsory at Level 3, therefore by choosing this course you are committing to complete all set work. Your teacher will select a range of texts to engage your curiosity and encourage you to be creative in your assessments.

Assessment

External

8 Credits (4 Writing + 4 Reading and Writing)

Internal

14 Credits (4 Reading + 3 Reading and Writing)

UE Literacy

Yes

Level 3 Business Studies



Course Outline

Students have a choice to create a programme mixed with both Business and Agribusiness themes which will involve field trips to view our local business communities. Alternatively students can choose an internal programme that involves creating an authentic and innovative business. They will then participate in the market by selling their product or service.

Assessment

External

4 Credits (All Reading and Writing)

Internal

15 Credits (12 Reading)

UE Literacy

Yes

Level 3 History



Course Outline

History is the study of past human societies, where ākonga analyse the causes and consequences of significant national and international events. We also investigate how all historical sources reflect the context in which they were created, which forces us to critically examine issues of usefulness and reliability. Throughout the year, we will examine:

1. Modern Genocides
2. Naming a Conflict: Aotearoa's 19th Century Warfare
3. The Fall of the Aztecs

This is a literacy-rich course which offers all the credits needed for UE Literacy. The skills you develop as a historian will prepare you well for any university degree and life in general.

Assessment

External	Internal	UE Literacy
10 Credits (All Writing)	15 Credits (All Reading)	Yes

Level 3 Tourism

Course Outline

Tourism involves the study of international and domestic tourist destinations. Students will look into tourism features and opportunities for specific destinations such as New Zealand, Australia, South Pacific and Europe. There is opportunity for a curriculum field trip to enhance the learning in Tourism.

Assessment

External	Internal	UE Literacy
0 Credits	21 Credits	No

**TITIRO KEI ROTO! OPEN
ME TO REVEAL EXCITING
2025 OPPORTUNITIES!**

